



JOBS CALL FOR CAPARO STAFF

Report by Richard Guttridge

THE Government must act to ensure more than 300 Black Country workers who lost their jobs at steel giant Caparo are able to get back into work, Labour MPs have said.

Staff at five sites in Cradley Heath, Oldbury, Dudley, West Bromwich and Darlaston were told by administrators on Friday they were being made redundant with immediate effect.

Around 50 former and current Caparo employees were invited to the Job Centre in West Bromwich High Street on Saturday in a bid to find a new career. The Job Centre in Temple Street, Wolverhampton, also opened up especially for Caparo workers, providing the same service.

Caparo Atlas Fastenings in Heath Road, Darlaston was worst hit with 122 workers made redundant.

A total of 68 jobs have also gone at Caparo Precision Tubes in Oldbury, as well as 64 at Caparo Forging Europe in Dudley, 59 at Fairbright Wire in West Bromwich and 10 at the Cradley Heath CMT Engineering plant.

The Darlaston, Dudley and West Bromwich sites closed with immediate effect.

Devastating

Labour's deputy leader and West Bromwich East MP Tom Watson said the onus was on the Government to support those who had been left jobless after years of service to the company.

He said: "This is devastating news for employees and their families. My thoughts are with them."

"The Government must act immediately to ensure all those affected are given the help they need to find new jobs, including financial assistance to retrain if necessary. These are highly-skilled workers that our region and our country cannot afford to lose."

"A Government that is quick to talk about the importance of industrial strategy should ask itself why it has failed to provide financial support to the British steel industry, one of the most strategically important industries there is."

Walsall North MP David Winnick added: "It was expected arising from the present situation. Nevertheless it is a heavy blow for the locality and the Black Country generally. It also undermines the constant claims the Government puts out that the economy is improving. In many aspects it's not."

Councillor Keith Chambers, who represents Bentley and Darlaston North, said: "I have a good number of family members who have worked there over the years and I know Caparo has been considered a firm you could stay with for years."

POPULAR POPPY ART TO MARK REMEMBRANCE



Mayor of Dudley Councillor Steve Waltho surrounded by thousands of poppies at Dudley Council House, which were made by local people

MORE than 2,000 hand-crafted poppies are covering the inside of Dudley's Council House in the run up to Remembrance Day on Sunday.

The poignant display, entitled Poppies Everywhere, has been created to mark Armistice Day on November 11.

Inspiration for the project came from the huge field of ceramic poppies that were on show at the Tower of London last year.

A total of 888,246 poppies were included in that display, representing lives lost in the First World War.

Poppies on display at the Priory Road council base were made using a variety of materials including glass, pottery, leather, paper and wool by adult learners and community groups across the borough.

Mayor

The Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Steve Waltho, said it was a remarkable display.

He added: "Since the First World War the poppy has come to symbolise those that have been killed in war and have also been used to commemorate that sacrifice."

"More than 50 groups, from across the whole spectrum, such as guide groups, people with learning difficulties, Age UK, just to name a few, have got involved, which I think is remarkable. It has now become a centre piece, which I'm very happy about."

The poppies will be displayed up until a few days after Armistice Day, when some will go to a display at RAF Cosford and some will be sold in aid of the Royal British Legion.

Towns and villages across Dudley borough will be marking Remembrance Day with parades and war memorial services on Sunday.

THEFT

Dog thieves pose as RSPCA officers

THIEVES posing as RSPCA officers have stolen three dogs — including one carrying a litter of pups — from a house in Quinton.

The Yorkshire Terriers were taken from the address in Blandford Road, Quinton, at just after 2.30pm on Saturday by two smartly-dressed men claiming to be investigating allegations of neglect.

The men took a nine-month-old puppy from the kitchen and her two-year-old parents from the garden.

The men are both described as white and in their late 30s or 40s. The dogs are black and tan in colour. Call police on 101.

TALENT

Collabro to switch on Merry Hill lights

BOY band Collabro, who won Britain's Got Talent in 2014 with their versions of show songs, will be visiting into Merry Hill for the switching on of the shopping centre's Christmas lights.

A weekend of entertainment is being organised on November 14 and 15.

The party kicks off at 11am on the Saturday with the switch-on at the main stage at 4 pm. Collabro and Old Men Grooving, who also took part in the TV talent show, will be performing. Santa's parade will take place from 3.30pm.

ATTACK

Stabbed teenager needed 20 stitches

A TEENAGER was stabbed in the street in Brierley Hill after he and his friends were set upon by another group of men.

West Midlands Police said the 19-year-old needed 20 stitches after the incident in Brettell Lane on Saturday at around 9pm.

Force spokesman Deb Edmonds said: "A man suffered a slash injury to his arm after being attacked by a man with a utility or craft knife."

The teenager was with a group of friends when they became involved in a dispute with another group of teenagers. Anyone with information should contact police on 101.

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PETITION BID TO SAVE MUSEUM



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NIGEL HASTILOW

He always tackles the hot topics head-on

Motorbiker slid into path of minibus

A MOTORCYCLIST from the Black Country died in a crash with a minibus after buying a bike against his wife's wishes, an inquest heard.

Nigel Christopher Thompson died of multiple injuries after the smash on the A489 between Kerry and Sarn, near Newtown, on August 2.

The 49-year-old from Quarry Bank, who had been a keen motorcyclist in his youth, gave up biking while his children were young and only bought the Kawasaki Z100 in March.

His wife Nicola told an inquest at Brecon Court via a statement, that she had not been happy about him getting a motorbike and even said to him she would become 'a biker widow'.

But she said it made him happy. She remembered seeing his face when he bought it and his daughters bought him the biking leathers.

Stephen Evans was driving a Dial-a-Ride minibus and was accompanied by Carol Clayton and

Ross Embrey on a trip to a fun day at Churchstoke, when the accident happened.

He said as he approached a right hand bend near Penygelly Mill he saw a motorcyclist travelling towards him on his side of the road. It looked as though the bike was out of control as it was weaving from side to side and wobbling.

Mr Evans said he turned the steering wheel and braked hard but knew there was going to be a crash.

"The last time I recall seeing the motorcyclist he was raising his hand," he said. "I do not know if he was apologising because he knew what was going to happen."

After the crash he called the emergency services.

Biker Darren Groves had been in a group of motorcyclists with Mr Thompson and was travelling behind him at the time.

He said the group would often go for a ride on a Sunday if the weather was good and they had travelled from the West Midlands to Craven Arms in Shropshire and were heading for Barmouth on the Welsh coast.

He told the inquest that at the bend Mr Thompson had tipped the bike and started to drift, the brake light came on, smoke came from the rear wheel, the bike sat up and he went across the road. "The bike slid into the path of the minibus," he said.

He found Mr Thompson's bike in the hedge and then he looked at the bus and realised his friend must be underneath it.

Dyfed-Powys Police collision investigator Constable Garry Rees said there were no defects on the road or with either vehicle. Powys coroner Andrew Barkley said Mr Evans could have done no more to avoid the accident.

Concern at figures for migrants in the region

MORE than 56,000 migrants have registered to work and claim benefits in the Black Country over the last six years, new figures reveal.

And the number of foreign nationals granted national insurance numbers soared by 39 per cent in just one year, according to the latest figures from the Office for National Statistics. The national average is 26 per cent.

In 2014 a total of 9,806 migrants registered to work across the region, a rise for 2,747 from the previous year. The figures also show that since 2008 a total of 56,027 migrants have registered for national insurance numbers in the Black Country.

Local councillors say they are concerned about the potential strain on resources prompted by influx of migrants, while an MEP has accused local authorities in the region of being 'pathetic and weak' for failing to stand up to the Government.

Last year Sandwell saw 3,808 new registrations, up 37 per cent from 2013, while almost 20 per cent of all residents in the borough were born outside the UK.

Wolverhampton saw 3,536 registrations, an increase of 34 per cent from the previous year. In Walsall there 1,559 migrants registered, a rise of 42 per cent.

Dudley saw the biggest rise with 903 NI registrations in 2014, an increase of 63 per cent. West Midlands MEP Bill Etheridge, also a Dudley councillor, said he was stunned by the magnitude of the increase in the Black Country.

£20m council cuts are defended by the leader

THE leader of Dudley Council has defended proposals to make £20 million worth of cuts over the next three years.

Dudley Museum and Art Gallery would close and up to 275 jobs would be axed under cost-cutting plans.

Leaders faced criticism from opposition members who claimed that cuts could have been tackled without harming services.

Councillor Pete Lowe came under pressure at the council's first cabinet meeting since the cuts were revealed last week.

Conservative leader Councillor Patrick Harley said the Labour-run council should have been better prepared to ensure such severe cuts affecting frontline services were not necessary.

"What's disappointing is not what's in this document but that for three and a half years Labour in Dudley has had the opportunity to make changes to the way services are delivered so that we manage our finances better than this," he said.

Rethink call on museum closure bid



Petitioners, front, Steven Briscoe and Ross Crompton and, back John Parman and Lynn Horton

Stopped

"I said two years ago that if a different delivery model wasn't introduced we would continue to cut until some services were not provided any more. Austerity isn't new, it's not been dropped on us since the election. It's been here for the last six or so years. Yet here we are with another budget and more services cut or stopped altogether."

But Councillor Lowe said the authority had been forced to contend with unprecedented Government funding cuts.

"We have seen significant cuts in Dudley, over and above that of elsewhere. We have seen cuts of £61 per person in Dudley compared to £18 in Windsor. How is that fair?" he said.

Finance boss, former leader Councillor David Sparks said: "We are facing even more horrendous cuts than we have already faced, they can't be compared to what we faced under the Labour Government."

"These are now your Government cuts, not the Coalition's, these are Conservative cuts, or should I say, George Osborne cuts."

Library opening hours could be cut with public toilets, dog bins and gritting lorries also in the firing line.

CAMPAIGNERS say losing Dudley Museum and Art Gallery would be a big loss to the town centre and have vowed to step up their bid to save the building.

The St James's Road attraction, faces closure under wider plans by Dudley Council to save £20 million over the next three years. Council bosses claim arts and culture in the borough would not be harmed by its closure.

Artefacts would instead move to Dudley Archives and Local History Centre, in Tipton Road, near the

Black Country Living Museum. But campaigners say the move will take another attraction out of the town centre and further hit footfall for shops and the market.

Wheelchairs

Finance boss and former council leader Councillor David Sparks said he supported closing the museum, as it was unsuitable for people in wheelchairs or with significant disabilities.

"My view is that it's better moving out to more suitable premises,

selling that building and reusing the funds more effectively," he said.

Almost 3,000 people have signed a petition against the move which was presented to Dudley Council leader, Councillor Pete Lowe, ahead of a council cabinet meeting.

Petition organiser, 25-year-old Ross Crompton from Upper Gornal, said it was important to retain town centre attractions.

People can view the petition via you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/save-dudley-museum-art-gallery

Bid to save club is dealt a blow

CAMPAIGNERS fighting to save the old Halesowen Members Club have been dealt a blow after planning bosses raised no objections to proposals to knock it down and build a Lidl supermarket.

The council's senior planning policy officer David Piper said the demolition of the building was unlikely to have an adverse effect on the area.

He also said the building has been identified as making a 'negative contribution' to the quality of the town's historic built environment.

It comes as a blow to campaigners trying to keep the club on Hagley Road open. Around 80 people have signed a petition to try and save the venue, which was formerly the Halesowen Labour Club. Objections from residents nearby have also been lodged with the council.

Man accused after officer was bitten

A MAN will appear in court after a police officer in Tividale was allegedly bitten on the arm.

Benjamin Pearce, age 22, of Hill Road, has been bailed to December 3 at Sandwell Magistrates Court charged with of assault.

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Problem of poor pitches prompts more investment

TWO fifths of sports pitches in Dudley borough are in a 'poor' state, according to a new report.

An investigation has found that only 87 of 167 pitches were found to be average or above average condition — and 70 were rated as poor.

It comes as council chiefs unveiled a scheme, worth up to £2 million, to create three new all-weather pitches at The Dell Stadium, in Pensnett, on land near Dudley College off Priory Road and at Hillcrest School, Netherton. But campaigners are urging for action over existing pitches after pitch hire fees were increased by two per cent this year.

Four pitches on King George V playing fields at Wordsley Park were among those in a poor state. At Greenfields, near Kingswinford Community Centre, the two adult football pitches are both rated as poor.

Brian Sutton, of the Dudley and Cradley Heath Football League, said: "Money has not been spent on these pitches for years."

Dudley councillor Khurshid Ahmed said: "We are passionate about encouraging people to lead healthy and active lifestyles through sport. We have to balance this with the significant cuts to our funding from national government, but we are working closer than ever with community groups to look at ways of delivering services differently."

"We are already investigating the potential for extra funding from the FA to improve pitches in three areas of the borough."

Shoppers back bag fundraiser

SHOPPERS at The Cornbow Shopping Centre in Halesowen managed to donate 279 bags to the British Heart Foundation (BHF) during their Bag It Beat It event.

Donated items will now be sold in BHF shops to generate vital funds to support life-saving research. The Cornbow encouraged shoppers to donate bags of unwanted items including clothes, CDs and DVDs.

Cornbow Centre manager Eve O'Connor said: "I would like to thank everyone who took the time to drop off their unwanted items. If you picked up a Bag It Beat It bag from our shopping centre but didn't have time to drop it off, you can still donate to your local BHF shop." For more information visit bagit.bhf.org.uk.

Qatar flights to take off in March

QATAR Airways is to launch a new service between Birmingham Airport and Doha on March 30 next year. The city is the fourth destination in the UK served by Qatar Airways which will operate eight flights per week.

New zoo arrivals otterly adorable



Buddy and Keyah with the youngsters

IT has been a double celebration for a family of otters at Dudley Zoo after five youngsters started to emerge from the underground den where they were born.

The otterly-adorable babies were born to Buddy and Keyah around two or three months ago, according to keepers at the attraction, in Castle Hill.

Staff have caught glimpses of the pups popping out the den, called aholt. Fast thinking keepers were able to get the first photographs of the cute animals. In them, the youngsters

can be seen being cared for by their doting parents while taking their first looks at outside.

And it has been a double celebration for the family as Keyah has just celebrated her sixth birthday.

Keepers at the zoo said because the youngsters were born underground it was difficult to know exactly when they had been born.

Section leader Jay Haywood said: "Although we do not know the exact date of birth of the five pups we think it was between two and three months ago. They are now starting to eat solid

food and are looking for their own meals."

Mr Haywood said to help them along they were providing small chunks of meat and fish for them.

He added: "Even though they have only recently started to make an appearance they are doing well and getting more and more independent each day."

Buddy, aged 10, arrived at the zoo from Lake District Wildlife Park this April as a new mate for Keyah.

Keepers said the pair had fell for each other right away.

Drop-out daughter attacked her parents

A UNIVERSITY drop-out launched a savage attack on her parents when told to stop spending so much time in bed, a judge heard.

Hayley Robson hurled a half-pint glass at the head of accountant father Lee, badly cutting his wrist as he shielded his face, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

The furious 22-year-old then turned on her mother Rachel, punching her in the face and biting her forearm, said Mr Gurdeep Garcha, prosecuting.

Trouble flared at the family home in Green Meadow, Pedmore, on December 30 over the way in which the daughter's life had spiralled downwards since she turned to drugs and alcohol after leaving Worcester University without completing a business studies course.

"The discussion over the fact she did not have a job, was spending most of her days in bed and was not making productive use of her life became heated," continued Mr Garcha.

"The defendant, who had been drinking wine, threw a half-pint glass as hard as she could at her father who was sitting on the settee but managed to raise his hands to protect his face. The glass smashed into his right wrist, cutting it and damaging a tendon.

Punched

"Mrs Robson stood up and was punched several times in the head and face before being bitten on the forearm."

She received a black eye and bloodied nose.

The daughter then accidentally hit her brother Simon when he came into the room after hearing the commotion.

She was later arrested at a different address. Her parents said in a victim impact statement that they both loved their daughter but were relieved she was no longer living at the same address since the atmosphere was much happier for their other two children.

Mr Richard Davenport, defending, said: "Their daughter has an underlying problem. She needs professional help."

"There is no application for a restraining order. It is hoped that the family can make up and resume contact in the not too far distant future."

Robson, now living in Queen's Cross, Dudley, admitted wounding and assault. She was given a 15 month jail sentence suspended under supervision for two years and ordered to co-operate with mental health treatment.



Ex-international Nigel Quashie running a coaching session at Halesowen where young players included his own son Brayden Clarke, 8

Football star helps young players

FORMER Albion and Wolves player Nigel Quashie has returned to the Midlands after a spell in Iceland to set up a soccer school.

Nigel Quashie, who also played for Birmingham City in his 18-year career, has opened the Improving Players Development Academy.

The academy runs sessions for kids aged seven to 16 at Powerleague in Halesowen and Birmingham, and Goals in Wolverhampton.

Quashie, 37, spent four years in Iceland developing players after leaving Queens Park Rangers in 2010.

Now he hopes to use his coaching skills to take youngsters from the Black Country to the next level.

The combative midfielder, who was capped 14 times by Scotland, said: "With the academy what I want to do is see people enjoy playing football. It doesn't matter who they are or where they're from, the aim is to give them confidence by playing football and having fun. I think football should be for everybody and I want people to come here, get better and improve."

Call 0121 280 0585 or visit www.ipda-quashie.co.uk

NEWS IN BRIEF

22-room home plan turfed out

PLANS to turn a warehouse into a house of multiple occupation have been rejected. Krundil Developments wanted to turn the building, in Penant Road, Cradley Heath, into a home with 22 rooms.

Neighbours lodged eight objections, claiming they were not informed what sort of accommodation would be offered. There were also concerns over parking and increased noise.

It was refused on the grounds of insufficient recycling facilities, lack of off-street parking and the building being too close to another home.

Old Liberace car to go on display

THE stand from Dudley-based Footman James at The Classic Motor Show will feature a glitzy car reputedly once owned by the flamboyant entertainer Liberace.

The specialist motor insurance broker has secured a 1931 Cadillac Fleetwood Drop Head Coupe featuring 23.7 carat gold leaf clad bodywork, silver external door handles and 24ct gold-plated internal door handles. It will go on display at the NEC, Birmingham from November 13-15.

Today, the car is owned by Cheshire based enthusiast Mike Radcliffe.

Overhaul at pub damaged by fire

A PUB that was badly damaged by fire is to get a £325,000 overhaul.

The Moon Under Water, in High Street, Cradley Heath, was closed for two days in September following the blaze that was believed to have been started by a discarded cigarette.

It caused damage to the front entrance of the Wetherspoons pub, its structure and sign. Alongside plans for repairs, it has been revealed that a major revamp of the pub will also take place.

Christmas fair at pub to aid animal charity

A CHRISTMAS gift fair raising money to feed horses at the Animal Healing Trust will take place in Dudley later this month.

It will be held at The Bell pub on Bromsgrove Road, Belbroughton on Saturday, November 28 from 11am to 4pm.

Designer jewellery, clothing, wellness and beauty products, candles and Christmas crafts are among the items that will be on sale at the fair.

To book a stall call 01562731928.

Generosity of fans

GENEROUS speedway fans have donated £500 to a charity that supports riders who were injured in the sport. Supporters of Cradley Heathens donated the cash to the Speedway Riders' Benevolent Fund before a recent race meeting. Heathens director Nigel Pearson said it was a great cause.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



SAUDI Arabia's ambassador to Britain complained a few days ago of a lack of respect for his country and deplored an "alarming change in the way Saudi Arabia is discussed in Britain." A couple of days later, one Saudi prince was detained in Lebanon following the biggest drug seizure in the history of Beirut airport. The next day, another Saudi prince was accused of assaulting three American women and holding them captive at a mansion in Beverly Hills. Respect? You earn it.

DOES a day go by without supporters of Jeremy Corbyn proudly boasting of his massive mandate? Corbyn took a whopping 59.5 per cent of the vote. That's 251,417 of the 422,664 votes cast and it looks impressive. But, lest we forget, the Labour leadership election was open not only to existing Labour Party members but to the entire nation. Virtually anyone could pay £3 to register as a Labour 'supporter' and they had many weeks in which to do it. So here was a transforming event, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for all the angry, disaffected folk in the UK to rise up and support a new sort of politics. Here was a chance for 45 million potential voters to throw their weight behind a genuine Left-wing politician, for less than the price of a pint. Corbyn's 251,417 votes represents only about one voter in every 180 in the UK. That 'massive mandate' is maybe



not so massive, after all.

A READER says he cannot take much more James Bond. After so many trailers, guest appearances, premieres, interviews and the rest of the Bond ballyhoo, he feels he has already seen Spectre several times over. He asks: "Has 007 never heard of overkill?" Probably not.

WE worry about a shortage of pumpkins forcing us to use turnips for Halloween lanterns . . . A few hundred miles away, on the borders of the Balkans, among that massive trudging queue of humanity, old folk and children, having survived the perils of the Med, will soon be freezing to death. Brace yourselves for a continent-wide wave of anger and shame.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Visitor numbers fall across borough venues

THE number of visitors to four main venues across a Black Country borough has plunged by more than 20,000 in just two years.

New figures highlight a significant fall in demand at Stourbridge Town Hall, Dudley Town Hall, Brierley Hill Civic Hall and the Cornbow in Halesowen.

Between April 2012 and May 2013, the quartet of venues saw 136,103 come through their doors.

By David Cosgrove

However, from April 2014 to May 2015, this number plummeted to just 115,695.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet member responsible for tourism, said there was no single reason for the drop in visitor numbers and the authority was working hard to attract people to its civic halls.

But Ukip leader Councillor Paul Brothwood said the decline in visitors was an indictment of the authority's backing for the arts and entertainment.

He said: "I think this is a sad reflection of the council's support for the arts.

"We have great artworks and glass works in stores and there are so many pieces that people don't get to see. I believe it's the duty of councillors to uphold our heritage and sometimes that message is lost.

"We need to publicise the fact that we've got so many great works of art and amazing heritage. Let's get them on show rather than hide them away - then I think the visitor numbers would increase."

The number of people heading to Brierley Hill Civic Hall increased, however, from 28,476 in 2012-13 to 31,393 in 2014-15.

The reduction in the number of attendees at Dudley Town Hall from 37,607 in 2012-13 to 27,315 in 2014-15 can in some way be explained by the closure of the main hall at the setting.

Councillor Ahmed said: "It's difficult to say exactly why the visitor numbers have gone down but it could be linked to the economy and people spending less money. We are encouraging people to come, holding different events and trying to attract them to the halls.

"It's the same everywhere - pubs and clubs are also not as busy and people aren't visiting as much. I assume it's because people are trying to save money."

He added: "The council is doing everything to support the arts and entertainment."

Couple celebrate 65 years



In tune — music-loving Jack and Mary Hingley met in 1948

JACK and Mary Hingley have been together since 1948 after meeting at the Royal Cinema in Cradley Heath as teenagers.

Mr Hingley, 84, was serving at RAF Manby, in Lincolnshire, and had to book a weekend off to get married on October 28, 1950 at Dudley Registry Office.

Mrs Hingley, 83 from Cradley Heath, was a sewing machinist and her husband worked as a foundryman at John Barnsley and Sons in Netherton on leaving the RAF. He was made redundant at 59 but went on to work alongside his wife at Laney Electronics in Cradley Heath until they retired.

They have two daughters, Jacqueline, aged 64 and Susan, aged 61, three grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Mr Hingley, who went to Northfield Road School in Netherton, said: "It is an amazing achievement to get a second congratulatory card from the Queen after our 60th. I still love Mary and adore as much as I did when we first met in 1948.

Mrs Hingley added: "Jack used to serenade me with a rendition of Strangers in the Night, I loved it. He was a fantastic singer, he still is."

Dogs will highlight menace of fake cigs

SNIFFER dogs will be used to highlight the illegal tobacco trade during an awareness operation next week in Halesowen and other parts of Dudley borough.

Town centres will be visited by trained dogs and their handlers as part of a counterfeit tobacco crackdown.

The dogs will be part of an event organised by Dudley Council's trading standards team, which aims to give the public information about the harm illegal tobacco can cause to communities, the economy and individuals.

Along with being able to find out more about the dangers, people can see the dogs in action searching out hidden tobacco products.

The display will take place from 9.30am to 3.30pm at Stourbridge's Crown Square on Monday; Somers Square in Halesowen on Tuesday; Dudley's market place on Wednesday; and the Moor Centre in Brierley Hill on Thursday, November 12.

Dudley councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member responsible for health, said: "These events provide a unique opportunity for people to understand the role of sniffer dogs and the dangers of illegal tobacco."

"Illegal tobacco is sold at low prices and without the necessary health warnings, which makes it easier for children and young smokers to get hooked. If people see this type of illegal activity they need to inform us."

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Temps earn up to £800 for one day

CASH-STRAPPED Dudley Council is paying temporary staff in its beleaguered children's services department between £425 and £800 a day.

This amounts to the authority spending more than £200,000 on interim staff so far this year.

The council, which has just unveiled a drastic package of cuts, employs 12 temporary workers in its children's services department – at a daily cost ranging from £425 to £800.

The scale of the Labour-led authority's temporary staffing has been criticised by opposition parties.

Figures reveal a total of £204,000 will have been spent by the end of October on part-time staff in children's services.

UKIP group leader Councillor Paul Brothwood said: "Someone needs to be held to account as to why Dudley Council needs to employ 12 part-time people to put the mess of our children's services right."

Councillor Ian Cooper said: "What we're doing is getting expertise in of national providence, and getting it in quickly and efficiently to do a job."

"I'd ask UKIP what price they would pay for the safety, well-being and aspirations of the children in Dudley. Those are our priorities."

"The interim staff have been brought in to do a job and they're delivering that job."

Bric-a-brac and books at church autumn fair

ST Andrew's Church, in Bilston Street, Sedgley, hosts an autumn fair on Saturday. Stalls will include Christmas gifts and cards, toys, games and crafts, home-made cakes, toiletries, clothes, books and bric-a-brac.

It is on from 10am to 1pm with proceeds to church funds. There will be competitions and refreshments.

Warning cameras are extended to several flooding blackspots

Spooky nights popular at museum



Viv Bates and Laura Hitchen, both of Rowley Regis, dress up for Halloween at the Black Country Living Museum

HUNDREDS of people took part in a Halloween event at the Black Country Living Museum with magicians, circus performers and street entertainers.

Visitors were encouraged to explore the shops and houses set across the Museum's award-winning 26 acres, where they could discover tricks, treats and terrifying tales. This year visitors also had the chance to head into the underground mine, which had been decked out for Halloween.

Director of Communications and Marketing, Laura Wakelin, said: "We were delighted to see tickets sell out in record time for our Halloween Nights, even though we'd actually added another date."

"Our visitors excelled themselves this year with their costumes."

"Dudley College students were dotted around the museum and performed to a 'haunted toy box' theme, much to the delight of visitors."

Children were given a 'sweet surprise' in selected houses and shops as they walked down the museum's gas-lit cobbled streets trick or treating.

Visitor Dennis Bates, 62 from Rowley Regis, said: "It was a really good event and a fantastic show for everyone. I was there for a good few hours, it really did capture the spooky season."

"Me and the family will definitely be looking to attend next year," he added.

NEW flood warning cameras are being installed at flooding blackspots near homes across the Black Country.

Campaigners living in Halesowen were among those to suffer problems after Illey Brook flooded sending water into 46 homes.

A camera was installed to monitor the brook and now a wider scheme has been launched to alert residents to potential flooding through the Black Country.

Now flood warning cameras have been installed in other sites including Kingswinford, Darlaston and Willenhall.

The camera system, which is solar powered, will monitor seven water-courses to help ensure people are alerted if their properties are at risk of flooding.

People signed up to the Environment Agency's flood warning service will receive an automated call once water rises.

They can also follow the camera via Twitter to receive alerts and photos when the water levels rise significantly.

Gushed

Water gushed into homes in Honeybourne Road from Illey Brook in 2008 after the adjoining River Stour was overwhelmed by heavy rainfall.

Halesowen South Councillor David Vickers said he was delighted that the scheme provides reassurance to residents living near the brook.

"The cameras in place are incredibly useful as they will save a lot of time, effort and prevent people being obliged to check for floods, potentially on a daily basis," he said.

"I hope to see them implemented all over the country. They give you early warning and are a fantastic source of flood prevention."

Church hall blaze was an arson attack

A FIRE that destroyed a church hall in Rowley Regis was arson, it has been confirmed.

The building next to Knowle Methodist Church in Dudley Road suffered severe smoke damage following the blaze, which raged in multiple parts of the building.

Fire officers have confirmed the fire was started deliberately. The arsonists are thought to have got in through windows on the roof.

The blaze has also put the church itself out of action temporarily as it is on the same gas line so could not be heated.

Reverend Caroline Wickens, superintendent minister for the Dudley and Netherton circuit, said churchgoers had been left shocked by the attack.

"It's just very sad. This is a wonderful congregation who work ever so hard and for something like this to happen to them is a real blow," she said.

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Man, that ridiculous PC crowd are back

REALLY, I should be livid that the politically-correct barmpots have taken it upon themselves to indoctrinate our children yet further by banning the use of phrases such as 'sissy' or 'man-up' in the playground.

Aside from the fact that I am fairly sure that no schoolchild has said 'sissy' since about 1975, I do think the way that the education system abuses its privileged position to brainwash impressionable youngsters with political correctness and green ideology is one of the most sinister developments of the past 20 years or so.

Particularly as it has coincided with Britain's schools plunging down the world league tables in the things that really do matter, like reading, writing, and doing sums.

Groups of pupils will also be encouraged to inform on their peers to an appointed "Gender Champion". Wasn't that sort of thing supposed to have died out with the fall of the Berlin Wall and all that?

And yet, strangely enough, I do find myself agreeing with the PC brigade on at least one aspect of this assault on free speech.

'Man-up' is a truly hateful phrase, and children really should be taught that it is never acceptable to use it. In this context at least, 'man' is a noun, not a verb. Yes, you can man a car park. But you can't man-up, man-down or anything else. That's why teachers should be telling them it's banned.

A NEW survey, compiled by a think-tank nobody has ever heard of, says Wolverhampton and Sandwell are the two most miserable places in the UK.

Really? I can't believe that. I mean what do people in the West Midlands have to be miserable about?

After all, it's not as if we are constantly patronised by a liberal London elite which seems to revel in forcing its strange values on us, is it?

AND I bet if the people in power actually did start listening to folk in this area, they could save a bit of money.

Over the past few months we have been repeatedly been told how ministers of successive governments were dazzled and 'mesmerised' by Camilla Batmanghelidj, and were persuaded into pouring millions of pounds into the appallingly managed Kids Company. All the evidence suggests that much of this money has been wasted.

Yet, I bet if they had sought the advice of anybody from the Black Country, they would not have been 'mesmerised' at all. They would have come to the same conclusion that I did several years ago.

That Camilla Batmanghelidj was just a fruitcake in silly clothes. And think how many police stations that cash would have paid for.



Mary during her fundraising skydive back in 2011



The protest in Rome, which Mary attended



Roy Shipley seen with his wife Michelle in 2009

Mary continues fight over asbestos deaths

One mother is seeking justice for workers who may have been affected by asbestos.
ADAM BURLING reports

MEN working long shifts in dust-filled factories, with no thought for health and safety and there is not a mask in sight.

This may sound like a scene from generations ago – but it has been happening as recently as the last 20 years.

And ex-workers are continuing to die after developing asbestos-related diseases.

The issue is now becoming more prominent than ever as manufacturers face court cases from the families that have been left behind.

In the Black Country, one woman is using her anger and grief over her son's death to make sure other people are not left in the same position.

Mary Law's fight began when her son Roy Shipley died at the age of 51, after a career working as an electrician in factories where he was exposed to asbestos.

Campaign

Since then she has been battling for greater compensation for the families of asbestos victims.

Now the 77-year-old from Dudley has taken her campaign to Italy where a ruling against the boss of a firm which allegedly contributed to the death of hundreds was overturned. Mrs Law, whose son died in 2010, opened the Arc-Aid charity shop in New Street, Dudley, four years ago.

After getting involved with the Mesothelioma UK charity, she became aware of the case against Swiss billionaire Stephan Schmidheiny who was accused of failing to ensure the safety of workers in asbestos-cement plants run by his now defunct Eternit group in Italy in the 1970s and 80s.

More than 3,000 workers died. He was convicted in 2012, after a three-year trial, and sentenced in absentia to 16 years in



Mary Law outside the Arc-Aid shop with Stuart Baker, of construction industry union UCATT

prison. But a court in Rome has since ruled that he should not have been convicted because the verdict came more than 12 years after the crime.

This made the case subject to a 'limitation' law. Mrs Law and fellow protesters waved banners and placards outside the Italian court and is planning to attend an appeal hearing in Belgium.

"I'm furious about what has happened. I'm

very angry about the lack of support for the families of victims," she says. "In this country the Government is not ensuring that people get enough compensation.

"My son had mesothelioma of the abdomen and didn't stand a chance."

A court ruling in 2013 meant thousands of sufferers and their dependants in the UK will be able to get damages from a special £350 million pot over the next decade.

Those diagnosed after July 25, 2012, who cannot sue former employers as they have gone bust or insurance details were lost, will be eligible.

Mrs Law says thousands of families are not getting enough compensation.

About 2,400 people die every year of the disease and numbers are set to increase over the next 30 years, with an estimated death toll of between 56,000 and 63,000.

It comes as a cross-party group of MPs have called for the eradication of all the remaining asbestos in Britain's workplaces and public buildings.

A report by the all-party parliamentary group on occupational safety and health calls for regulations requiring the safe phased and planned removal of all the remaining asbestos in Britain.

The parliamentary group found asbestos is still a serious threat.

This year, according to official figures, 5,000 people in Britain are likely to die prematurely as a result of asbestos exposure.

This is around three times the number of road accident deaths.

Research

Aside from campaigning, Mrs Law also works as a chiropodist and is a dedicated fundraiser, recently scaling the heights of Mount Snowdon in aid of Mesothelioma research.

She completed the walk up the highest Welsh peak with husband Bill, aged 80, and friends Ian Halls and Ian Edgington, to raise nearly £2,000 for charity.

She has undertaken a number of charity events, including a sky dive in 2011, to raise funds into the research of the disease following the death of her son.

She is determined to keep going – and in the process raise the profile of the battle facing the families of people who died after being exposed to asbestos.

The memory of her son will stay with her throughout, and keep her going in the fight for justice.

She says: "Losing my son was devastating, he was a strong, lovely man who had achieved much. If I could have done something like I am about to do to have saved him, I would have done so willingly."

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Lack of media interest in speedway

IN 1960 I went to my first speedway meeting and have followed the sport ever since. I started in Edinburgh, then Wimbledon, Halifax, Coventry and now Cradley. I have always been pleased at the way in which the sport has welcomed families.

No problems with fans mixing together – no trouble. Even going to Poland and seeing the way in which we were welcomed.

But unfortunately, we have lost tracks for housing, other sports and because of the 'noise'. Changes have been made to accommodate these issues, with silencers being

one. But now we have to put up with a curfew that councils have imposed. Last week's Cradley meeting was stopped due to the curfew. We had only had ten heats but the meeting was finished due to this restriction.

The other part of being a sport that is ignored is in the coverage that we get in the media. When we have a world champion who is British the general media is lacking in its support. Please help us celebrate our success before we are robbed of our sport.

A BLACKWELL
Wollaston

Petition on art gallery closure bid

LIKE many people, I am deeply concerned with Dudley Council's proposal to close Dudley Museum and Art Gallery.

As custodians of the museum, the council should be looking at ways to protect and promote it, not discard it and deprive our town of yet another piece of its illustrious history.

I recognise that cuts have to be made, but not at the cost of such a significant asset. Councillors have suggested the relocation of the museum's treasures elsewhere in the borough, but that misses the point; the town has already lost so much over the years, it cannot afford to lose anything else, and deprive future generations of a chance to explore their heritage.

I have created a petition, urging the council to reconsider their decision. I implore anyone who feels the same way to sign it.

The petition can be found at: <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/p/savedudleymuseum>

R CROMPTON
Dudley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL

dudley.chron@
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Legislation could benefit thousands

ON 6 November, MPs will have the chance to support an important piece of legislation that could benefit hundreds of thousands of patients across the UK.

The Off-patent Drugs Bill would improve access to low-cost, effective treatments for a range of conditions – from breast cancer to multiple sclerosis – and I would urge our local MP to support it.

The bill would ensure that drugs that have fallen out of patent, but have since proved effective for clinical uses outside of their original licence, are routinely available on the NHS.

With these drugs often being very-low cost, it makes economic as well as clinical sense for them to

be more widely available. Backed by the UK's largest breast cancer charity, Breast Cancer Now, along with a host of other charities including Prostate Cancer UK, Alzheimer's Society and Bloodwise, the Bill needs 100 MPs to vote in favour to take it to the next stage.

More work needs to be done to secure the parliamentary support it needs.

Time is running out, so as well as calling on our MP to back this bill that would help hundreds of thousands of patients, I would ask others to join me and add their support to the campaign by visiting breastcancernow.org/unlockdrugs

J MCGUIRE
Dudley

Disposables cost more

WITH regards to reading the letter in The Chronicle (October 22) by E Ward Davis about people who can't afford terry nappies shouldn't have children.

Let me tell you, it's more expensive to buy disposables than terry nappies.

The fact you have dogs and because of the 5p carrier bag charge your attitude is 'I will not pick my dog poo up'. You can buy a 100 poo bags for a £1 so my answer to you is 'if you can't afford poo bags don't have dogs'.

Let's just hope you can afford the fine of £75 per dog for each time you leave your dog mess on the street.

L WILLETTS
Halesowen

Irresponsible to not clean up

REGARDING the letter by E A Ward-Davies 'Not happy over smelly nappies' (Chronicle, October 22).

Is your issue with disposable nappies or the fact you have to now pay 5p for a carrier bag?

How irresponsible of you to not clean up after your four dogs.

Maybe you should take a leaf out of your own book and stick a terry nappy on your pooches or buy some poop bags. If you can't afford them, don't have dogs.

LISA BUTCHER
Brierley Hill

Don't have dogs

I AGREE with the comments about babies' nappies (Letters, October 22). However, I say to the writer 'if you can't afford poo bags you shouldn't have a dog!'

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FIVE MINUTES FROM MERRY HILL

Cancer patients worried over longer trips for treatment

CANCER patients in Sandwell fear they will find it impossible to attend appointments if they are made to travel to Wolverhampton or Coventry.

The trust that runs Sandwell and City Hospitals is currently trying to find another site to run some of its cancer services after a deal with the University Hospitals Birmingham Trust (UHB) was scrapped.

Consultants from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham provide oncology clinics at Sandwell and City Hospitals but discussions have collapsed after concerns over costs and 'quality of care'. The Birmingham trust said it would no longer deliver the services from April 2016 unless an 'alternative mutually acceptable solution' can be agreed.

Show-jumping rabbits at NEC pet show

SHOW-JUMPING rabbits will be among the attractions at the National Pet Show, which returns to Birmingham's NEC this weekend.

Duck-herding dogs and birds of prey will also be performing at the event which displays the wonderful talents of animals. Dogs, cats, rats, reptiles, ponies, fish and chickens will also be getting in on the action.

Animal experts will also be on hand to provide informative talks about pets. The SuperTheatre is also home to the Eukanuba Supernet Live Tour, featuring Channel 4 Supernet Noel Fitzpatrick, who will take to the stage to recount heart warming success stories from the popular TV series.

The pet show will run from 9.30am until 5pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Tickets for the show are available from www.thenationalpetshow.com or on the door for £20 for adults, £14.50 children, £16.50 seniors and under-5s free. Family tickets are available.

Tony Waite, finance director at the Sandwell and West Birmingham Trust, which runs Sandwell and City Hospitals, said discussions had already begun with others. This has sparked fears for cancer sufferers that they will be forced to travel to up to 30 miles, to Coventry or to Wolverhampton, which are the nearest alternative centres.

Terminal

Stephanie Cartwright, of West Bromwich, has survived breast cancer twice and attends appointments every three months. The 49-year-old mother-of-four said: "This is going to have a tremendous effect on the future for people diagnosed with cancer. It is not like Sandwell and West Birmingham is a small area, it is a lot of people's lives. Cancer is one of the most stressful things and this will be an added stress."

A UHB spokesman said: "Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals were not prepared to meet the cost of sufficient consultant time to run a service which UHB clinicians and managers believe could offer an appropriate level of quality and safety."

Work starts on £5m care home scheme



BCHG chairman Peter Bilson, Dudley deputy mayor Mohammed Hanif and the BCHG and LNT teams

BUILDING work has started on a 66-bed care home that will create 50 jobs.

The new home in Kent Road, Halesowen, is due for completion in September next year.

The £5 million three-storey facility is being provided by Black Country Housing Group (BCHG) and built by LNT Carehome Development. It will provide high-quality residential care as well as up to 32 beds and specialist care for people with dementia.

The 30,580 sq ft property in Kent Road will include en-suite bedrooms

for people aged over 55. The scheme will comprise six two-bedroom, semi-detached independent living bungalows.

The opening of new facility in 2016 will create 50 jobs.

The Kent Road scheme marks the first time that BCHG has developed a new residential care home, but the leading social business has a long track record of providing care across the Black Country.

In February it took over the management of care home New Bradley

Hall in Kingswinford and currently manages six independent living schemes for people aged over 55, plus two assisted living homes for people with physical and learning disabilities.

Deputy Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Mohammed Hanif, attended a sod-cutting ceremony along with Christine Cooper, managing director of LNT Carehome Developments.

Councillor Gaye Partridge, cabinet member for housing, added: "This new high-quality residential home will provide important expert care."

Council bring back wage rise incentive

COUNCIL workers in Sandwell are to be offered pay rises to try to prevent them from being tempted to move to other authorities.

Bosses are bringing back a scheme which offers employees the carrot of a salary increase if they have performed particularly well, or if there is a fear they could be enticed by a higher-paid role elsewhere.

The council also fears it could experience difficulties trying to attract new staff without the merit increment salary scheme in place, which was scrapped in 2010.

More than 200 jobs have been axed during the last 18 months at the cash-strapped authority, which is currently trying to save £22 million.

Chiefs insist the possibility of a pay rise is vital to keeping staff happy.

Cabinet member Councillor Peter Hughes said bringing back the scheme would 'send out a message' that the council was a 'caring employer'.

UKIP Councillor Philip Garrett said he understood why the council wanted to support successful workers but the timing of the move wasn't right given the authority's financial situation. He said: "This is an old scheme which the council has brought back. When other staff are being laid off it's not an unreasonable argument to ask if it's the right time to do this - I'd say it's not."

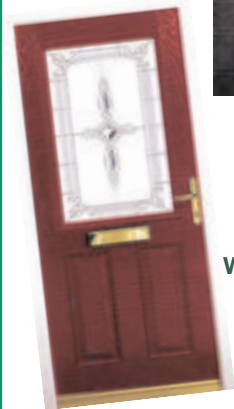
EofE band top bill at Mayor's fundraiser

DUDLEY band EofE headline a fundraising gig in aid of the Mayor's five charities.

Councillor Steve Waltho will unveil a line-up of four local bands at the River Rooms in Stourbridge for the Mayor Rocks concert on Thursday, December 3 from 7.30pm.

Tickets cost £5 each for the 7.30pm show and are available by calling 07412 531924 or emailing szylimesrde@hotmail.co.uk

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Mystery Lanza artist visit leaves landlady shocked

A MYSTERIOUS writer who has been dubbed 'the Black Country Banksy' surprised a pub landlady by arriving in person with his trademark calling cards.

Described as being dressed in a long raincoat, with a long black shawl covering his face, the mystery man appeared at The Wheat-sheaf pub, in Rowley Regis.

He had already baffled new landlady, Sara Harvey, after sending her his famous Mario Lanza drawings in the post.

Miss Harvey, who bought the pub in June, said that he had first written to her after seeing her in the Chronicle's sister publication The Express & Star in August - following the discovery of a hidden stained glass window in the pub.

She explained: "I couldn't believe it when he decided to send me letters, all with different post marks too."

Drawings

"He said that he had seen the article in the paper about the stained glass window, and that he remembered it as he used to drink in the pub himself many years ago."

"I had heard of Mario Lanza drawings being left in pubs but didn't really know a lot about the ghost-writer himself."

Miss Harvey received two letters, one with a cat food advert stuck to it, before he then appeared in person.

The mystery man has been baffling people for decades by leaving beer mats featuring sketches of the late opera singer Lanza in various pubs, cafes - and even at Dudley Zoo.

"His letters were amazing, but a little odd," said Miss Harvey, aged 37.

"Then the one day I was at the bar and this man with a long raincoat and



A letter left by the mystery man



A Mario Lanza 'calling card' beer mat



Landlady Sara Harvey with the cards left by the Mario Lanza ghostwriter

black shawl came in and noticed that I had framed the cards and letters I had been sent.

"I was talking about how I wondered who it was, and then out the blue he pulled out a beer mat and book and said it was him."

"He was such a lovely gentleman,

it was unbelievable to have met him in person - although he still wouldn't reveal himself fully."

It has been estimated that there have been 250,000 secret sketches from the ghost-writer scattered around the Black Country area since the 1960s.

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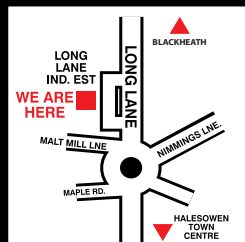


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West Mids Federation

THE West Midlands Federation of Townswomen held their annual Harvest Lunch in the Wollaston Room at Stourbridge Town Hall on October 7.

The event was attended by 90-plus members. Chairman Margaret Tew gave a warm welcome to everyone. Margaret then said Grace. This was followed by a two-course meal, prepared and served by the Federation committee. Thanks were given to Margaret Bache who also lent a helping hand on the day.

Following the lunch the chairman introduced the entertainer for the afternoon, Beryl Briscoe. She is also known as the Black Country nightingale.

Beryl is a very talented singer who sang a wide variety of songs starting from the war years through to the 60s and 70s and finishing with a little bit of opera. She added a bit of humour with a few jokes which had everyone laughing.

She very kindly stepped in at the final hour when the original entertainer could not make the day. The chairman gave a vote of thanks to Beryl on members' behalf. Thanks were given to the committee for a very enjoyable afternoon. Everyone had thoroughly enjoyed the meal and the entertainment.

The next event being organised by the Federation will be the carol service at St Thomas's Church, Market Street, Stourbridge on December 12 at 2.15pm. Hot drinks and mince pies will follow in the church hall.

Alan wings in with facts about owls

Members planning trip to Hagley Hall

CHAIRMAN Jean Latham presided over the October meeting, welcoming 43 members and three visitors. Apologies followed, after which the secretary read the minutes of the last meeting which were duly passed and signed. The treasurer then gave a favourable report on financial affairs.

It was announced that a thank you card had been received from Macmillan Nurses for the donation made from the guild's summer tea party.

Sub-section reports followed. It was related that the bowling match with the Sons of Rest had been a great success, enjoyed by all, and had finished the season off very well. A visit is planned for June next year, to the grounds of Hagley Hall, possibly followed by afternoon tea. The speaker Ian Drury

Wollaston 'E' TWG

gave a very interesting talk on the life of the Portland Vase. It is thought that the subject originated in Rome in 525AD, and may have been made as a wedding gift. It is now displayed in the British Museum. Members showed their appreciation in the usual way.

It was requested that members wishing to attend the Christmas Party on December 8 pay £5 at the November meeting.

Raffle prizes went to Carol Longmore and Jill Forest, while the competition was won by Ann Turner and Julie Willetts.

The next meeting is at 7.30pm on November 10 at St James Church Hall, Wollaston, when Nigel Wiggins will speak on Old Hall stainless steel.

Traditions of festive period

THE next meeting is on Thursday, November 12 at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Church, Bilston Street.

The speaker will be Mary Bodfish, a favourite with local history groups and chairman of Smethwick Local History Society.

Mary's illustrated talk follows the traditions and customs of the festive season through the ages. Along the way there are

Sedgley Local History Society

Pagan festivals, Roman ceremonies, the Nativity, Tudor feasting, Victorian embellishments and much more.

As usual visitors are invited, admission is £1. Annual membership costs £5 and gives free access to the programme of talks.

Kingswinford TG

KINGSWINFORM Guild met on October 12 in the community centre in High Street. The advertised speaker was unable to attend, but happily Alan Peace stepped in at very short notice to fill the gap.

He spoke about the life of the barn owl, with many surprising facts to correct the false impressions anyone may have. He also talked about the World Owl Conservation group which is attempting to save many threatened species. He was thanked by Joyce Major.

A name the doll competition was set in motion to help boost the funds of the Wednesday Club which have become somewhat depleted. The doll is a little beauty, knitted by Brenda Greenaway, who was unable to be present. In November the Wednesday Club is an open night to which gentlemen are invited. Chris Smith will speak about some unusual things made in the Black Country.

Kath Turner was thanked for her delightful flower arrangement which she donated as a raffle prize. Prizes were won by Sue Wilson and Enid Fennell.



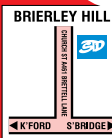
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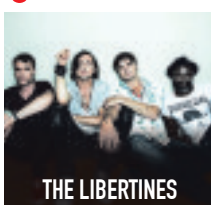
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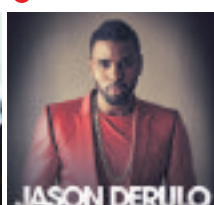
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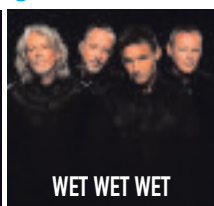
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Magnificent send-off for fan of the Wild West



Jim Morris and Dave Parsons drove the horse-drawn hearse for western enthusiast Michael Whittaker's funeral

THERE was a Wild West send off for a cowboy enthusiast who had his coffin carried through town in a horse-drawn carriage during his funeral procession.

Michael Whittaker, a former canal lock keeper and an avid collector of Wild West memorabilia, died from a heart attack aged 76 at his home in Brierley Hill last month.

More than 200 people turned out for his funeral in Brierley Hill on Thursday, many having donned Western

outfits to give him a fitting farewell. Staff from the funeral director's also dressed as cowboys as they rode the horse-drawn carriage.

Michael's coffin was carried in to the theme music from The Magnificent Seven and tributes included a floral wreath in the shape of a saddle. The enthusiast's favourite cowboy hat was placed on his coffin.

Some of his vast collection of memorabilia was placed around the altar at St Michael's Church in Bell Street South.

Michael's brother Tony, aged 71, said the funeral had been a fantastic send-off for his older brother.



Mr Whittaker's cowboy hat on his coffin

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Vision revealed to bring church into modern era

AN HISTORIC church in the Black Country is putting plans forward for a six figure revamp, which will see it modernised for the community.

The Grade II-listed Holy Trinity Church, in Old Hill, is looking to develop and create new seating, flooring, storage and office space, costing in the region of at least £100,000.

Church leaders are now inviting people along to their Vision Day on Sunday, November 15, at 10.45am. This will lay out the Parochial Church Council's plans for the next year and encourage family members to support and contribute towards the project.

Churchwarden Rachel Ford, 55, said: "I'm very excited to be in the consultation stages with the proposal and looking forward to updating the local community and to hear their thoughts of our plans at the meeting in a couple of weeks. The church building has been part of the life and fabric of both the community of Old Hill for almost 140 years."

The vicar of Holy Trinity, Reverend Nick Gowers explained: "We're really excited about our new project to re-organise the interior, making it more accessible, versatile and welcoming for the people of Old Hill.

"We think it is important that people can gather to meet with God in an inviting, warm and comfortable space."

Church ministry intern Rachel Safferey, 23, from Old Hill, is excited by the prospect of the modernised Holy Trinity.

She said: "It's a lovely church and deserves to be redeveloped and revamped for the community."



Ministry trainee Rachel Safferey, of Old Hill, inside Grade II-listed Holy Trinity Church, which is to be revamped

Councillors arrange monthly surgeries

COUNCILLORS in a Dudley borough ward have organised a new monthly surgery. They hope it will benefit people unable to attend current weekend sessions.

Cradley and Wollescote Councillors are running a six-month trial surgery at the Providence Methodist Church in Windmill Hill. They began this week and will run every first Tuesday from 11.30am to 12.30pm until April next year.

It is hoped members of the public who can't get to the existing weekly Friday night and monthly Saturday surgeries will take advantage of the new dates.

Ward Councillor Gaye Partridge said: "People are more often than not asking to meet, sometimes this is because their case is complicated, or because they just want to speak to someone face to face.

"We are also finding that there is a small group of people who for one reason or another struggle when it comes to using phone-based services.

"What ever reason this is a chance to catch up with your councillor and sort out any long standing or difficult issues."

'Injustice' claim by leaders in mosque row

MUSLIM leaders say they have a 'sense of injustice' over their plans to build a new mosque in Dudley.

As the battle returned to court, top judges heard leaders blame council officials for the delays over the building.

Dudley Muslim Association (DMA) and Dudley Council took their dispute to Court of Appeal in London. The association is fighting to stop the council seizing back land in Hall Street which it had earmarked for a new mosque.

The DMA suffered a blow last year when the High Court blocked an appeal against an earlier ruling. A judge had stuck out the DMA's defence against council plans to reclaim ownership of the site.

At the latest hearing, the DMA was asking the appeal court judges to overturn the High Court judgement.

By Andrew Turton

Deadline

Their lawyers claim they have been the victims of an 'abuse of power' by the council.

The case centres on a lease granted by the council to the DMA for development of the land in 2003.

But work was unable to get under way after 'delays' in obtaining planning permission before a deadline set by the council.

After the deadline passed the council tried to invoke a buy back clause to regain the site, where an empty factory stands now alongside Duncan Edwards Way.

The DMA's barrister, David Matthias QC told Lords Justices Lewison and

Treacy and Lady Justice Gloster that the failure to extend the deadline was 'unfair'.

It would have been 'appropriate' for the council to extend the deadline 'to allow for the delays brought about by the council', he said.

He told the judges the DMA 'have a great and understandable sense of injustice about their treatment at the hands of the council'.

The council contests their argument. "This is, at heart, a dispute between two properly advised parties to a commercial property transaction," their lawyer, Timothy Morshead QC said in written arguments.

It is believed judges will reserve judgement to a later date.

DMA leaders had tried to avert the court hearing by making a £325,000 out of court settlement to the council.

If the settlement offer had been accepted, the group would have retained ownership and the council would have ended its bid to invoke its buy-back clause. But this was unanimously rejected.

Remand for suspect in robbery attempts

A MAN has been remanded in prison on suspicion of trying to carry out four shop robberies across Dudley in little more than two hours. Unemployed Lee Cartwright, from Brompton Drive, Amblecote, was arrested in Tipton.

It is alleged Cartwright was involved in an armed robbery attempt at Premier Stores in Malvern Avenue, Lye, at 7.25pm on September 27, and failed in another robbery at an off licence in Quarry Bank High Street 30 minutes later.

The 24-year-old is also accused of stealing cigarettes from Kingsway Stores in Kingsway, Wollaston, at 9.25pm before a last unsuccessful raid on a chip shop in Hill Street, Brierley Hill, at 10pm.

He has appeared before Dudley Magistrates Court charged with three attempted robberies, one robbery and one count of possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence. He will next appear in Wolverhampton Crown Court on January 26.



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Keeping those ailments at bay

Winter conditions can be seriously bad for our health, especially for people aged 65 or older and people with long-term conditions.

The cold and damp weather, ice, snow and high winds can all aggravate any existing health problems and make us more vulnerable to illnesses that are more common in winter.

Being cold can raise the risk of increased blood pressure, heart attacks and strokes. But there are lots of things you can do to stay well this winter.

Feeling unwell?

Don't wait – get advice from your nearest pharmacist. Winter can make existing health problems worse. So if you feel like you're coming down with something, even if it's just a cough or a cold, don't wait until it gets worse. Act quickly. Pharmacists are fully qualified to advise you on the best course of action.

Is your medicine cabinet ready for the winter?

Most common winter ailments, such as a cold, sore throat, cough, sinusitis or middle ear infection, can't be treated with antibiotics. The best thing to do is:

- Rest
- Drink plenty of fluids
- Have at least one hot meal a day to keep your energy levels up
- Talk to your pharmacist for advice on getting any pain relief you need such as paracetamol or ibuprofen.

Take medicines as directed

If you've been prescribed antibiotics or any other medication, make sure you take them as directed.

Make sure you get your flu jab

The flu virus strikes in winter and it can be far more serious than you think. That's why the flu jab is free if you're aged 65 or over. Just speak to your GP.

A MAJOR drive to help people stay well this winter has been launched by Public Health England and NHS England.

The NHS Stay Well This Winter campaign is urging people aged 65 or over, or those with long-term health conditions, such as diabetes, stroke, heart disease or respiratory illness, to prepare for winter with advice on how to ward off common illnesses.

The campaign is asking the public to:

- If you start to feel unwell, even if it's just a cough or a cold, then get help from your pharmacist quickly before it gets more serious.
- Make sure you get your flu jab if eligible.

- Keep yourself warm – heat your home to least 18C or (65F) if you can.

- Make sure you get your prescription medicines before pharmacies close on Christmas Eve.

- Always take your prescribed medicines as directed.

The Stay Well This Winter campaign will make sure that people have the information they need to help them look after themselves this winter and also to know the



Pharmacists are fully qualified to advise you on the best treatment



The campaign is urging people to prepare for winter

best place to go for urgent advice, whether that's their local pharmacy, NHS Choices, NHS phone number 111 or accident and emergency.

As in previous years the flu vaccine programme is an important part of this campaign.

The adult flu vaccine will be offered free to those in groups at

particular risk of infection and complications from flu including those aged 65 or over, those aged under 65 with long-term health conditions, pregnant women and carers.

Vaccination

This year, for the first time, all our youngest primary school children will be eligible to receive the free

nasal spray vaccine, making this the largest school-based vaccination programme in England involving children in 17,000 schools.

The children's flu vaccine programme will seek to help more than three million two to six year olds, as the programme is extended to children in school Years 1 and 2.

Parents are encouraged to complete consent forms in order to allow immunisation teams to administer the nasal spray flu vaccine to their children.

For those children in areas where the vaccination is not offered through schools, they will be offered the vaccination at their local GP or pharmacy.

Are you 65 or over?

If you feel like you're getting a cough or a cold, get advice from your pharmacist before it gets more serious.

STAY WELL THIS WINTER

nhs.uk/staywell

NHS



Sanjay Ganvir, Pharmacist

Only Josh-ing for great fun in Brum

Josh Widdicombe, Town Hall, Birmingham MATTERS conspired against us in getting to the second city for the start of this gig. Congestion on the roads, parking problems – and all on a Sunday night. So we were in need of some comic relief when we finally arrived. Thanks goodness Josh Widdicombe provided it. Mind you, when I told my other half we had tickets for a curly-haired enter-

tainer in Birmingham that night, she was expecting to see Jess Glynne, who was performing elsewhere in the city. She wasn't so hard on herself when she realised it was the Devonian funnyperson. He's been away from the touring scene for a while, but hasn't been short of television and radio work. And he wasn't bereft of material either. In a show called What Do I Do Now? he was able to reveal some of

the things that annoyed him, like his schooldays and a fear of flying. He also gave his take on why James Bond doesn't drink real ale. Widdicombe even revealed he has his own sitcom coming up, called, inspiringly, Josh, which he insists he was requested to mention to his audience. It was all good fun, even if the two behind us probably found it a bit too funny.

Mark Shipp

Babajack's big bundle of blues

Babajack Robin 2, Bilston WHEN you see the way Babajack let rip as they did in the Bilston venue you realise how they became the British Blues Award winners. Singer Becky Tate is sexy, sassy and a real live wire with her hips swaying and her wild auburn hair swishing madly about as she plays the cajon and sings. On top of that she has a really cool voice. She was on stage with drummer Tosh Murase, bass guitarist Adam Bertenshaw and the incredibly blues infused dude, Trevor Steger on cigar box guitar and harmonica. The only disappointing part was there were only about 30 people there to enjoy the gig, but enjoy it they did. They opened with a thumping version of The Money's All Gone from their Rooster album with Murase hammering out the beat before Steger's gobiron came in like a steam train. Babajack are definitely a band best enjoyed live. Danny Farragher

REVIEWS



Seth Lakeman on stage at the Robin2, Wolverhampton. Pic Danny Farragher

Lakeman shows how many strings there are to his bow

Seth Lakeman Robin 2, Bilston SETH Lakeman walked into a seriously warm welcome from the fans packed into Robin2. Joined on stage by his fellow Full English band member Ben Nicholls, drummer Cormac Byrne and guitarist and banjo player Jack Rutter Lakeman started as he meant to go on, full of energy. As usual Lakeman came with a bucket load of instruments, none of which went to waste. He kicked off with the high energy Courier from his latest album, Word of Mouth,

his fiddle from the start doing 20 to the dozen. Lakeman mixed up his set, trawling to resurrect earlier songs. This was followed by Take No Rogues from his Freedom Fields album. He then pulled out a broadside from Frank Kidson, Stand By Your Guns before going into the incredibly emotive Shores of Normandy, written by Jim Radford for the anniversary of the D-Day Landings. Lakeman put on a show full of energy and gave the crowd what they love, watching him hammer his fiddle like he was trying to start a fire.

Danny Farragher

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Lost & Found

My smile was stolen in a road crash, but restored by cosmetic dentistry.

SHE loves fashion – particularly shoes, is the manager of a thriving internet sales company and a working mum with “two full-time boys.” For Esther Nash, life is forever gaining momentum as she juggles relationships with musician husband Adam, her lads, Noah, aged six and four-year-old Hudson. Then, of course, there are the exacting demands of work . . . and play. Three times a week she can be found tuning up at fitness boot camp sessions, neatly sandwiched between the odd run, eventing meetings, rehearsals with a choir, helping out at her local church, playing taxi for the kids’ karate and swimming clubs, and all while endeavouring to remain calm and glamorous.

Essential ingredients as she faces the world: Lip gloss and just enough make-up in her handbag for a two-minute restoration. The 28-year-old admits life is a whirlwind full of unforeseen challenges in both business and motherhood. Her coping mechanism (she’s already running late for this interview after Hudson’s sudden call of nature) is focussing on the good things and to keep smiling. But the gleaming smile and infectious laughter that so defines this ‘supermum’ was stolen in a moment after a head-on smash with a bus. “It was just another day. I’m always busy, but fortunately I hadn’t got the boys with me,” she recalls. “Like all accidents it all happened so quickly. I was in a road where suddenly the

Esther Nash – all smiles once again after her ordeal



Below: Crash damage – Esther’s broken smile



lanes become very narrow. On that day a delivery van as parked at the narrowest point. The road in front of me appeared clear, but as soon as I’d begun the manoeuvre a bus was coming right towards me. “I thought I’d have enough room to continue and miss it, but I didn’t,” she adds. Trapped and hysterical in her mangled Nissan she was aware a number of pedestrians shouting ‘get out, get out.’ “The air bag had gone off and there was this haze in the car that looked like smoke.

I think they thought it was on fire, but I was more concerned with the strange crunching in my mouth. “In the middle of this chaos – by now the ambulance and police had arrived – I looked in the mirror and my mouth was full of blood. My smile was ruined with one of my upper front teeth sheered. “I was mortified, hurt everywhere as I’d bounced back and forth off the bus and the parked van, but it was my damaged smile that bothered me most. It’s a big part of who I am,” she recalls. Monitored by paramedics at the scene in a neighbour’s home for two hours, she was eventually taken to hospital by the ambulance crew. “My foot was damaged and I had bruises all over, but I was devastated by my shattered front tooth. How can a single tooth cause so much grief? “I was wearing a large flower ring – costume jewellery – and it was broken in two. They

think the impact threw my hand off the steering wheel and my tooth connected with the ring. “Looking back it had a huge impact on me. I needed it fixed, like yesterday, and vowed not to go out until it was repaired. My confidence just evaporated and I didn’t want to leave the house,” she adds. Following emergency treatment on her tooth, Esther sought help from North Street Dental and Implant Clinic in Dudley, where resident dentist Polly Mineva DMD GDC 188090, took on the case. “I just wanted things to be normal, but I had so much sensitivity with the tooth I had to wait a fortnight for things to calm down. Polly was so supportive and set about fitting a porcelain veneer, but it meant my tooth initially looked worse after the prep work. I just broke down in the waiting room on the way out. “Everyone was so kind,” she says.

Pulled out all the stops

Practice principal Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng) GDC108353 adds: “The psychological and emotional association with our teeth is very strong and Esther’s response was a common one. She was distraught and we pulled out all the stops to complete the dental work within ten days. “The lab people were amazing, with Esther having an appointment to see them to ensure an excellent colour match.” Adds Esther: “I couldn’t have asked for more. My teeth have at least three gradients of colour and the match is perfect. I can’t thank the team enough.” Polly, who has a special interest in this field of dentistry, working in Michigan, USA, at a prestigious dental cosmetics centre before joining the North Street team, says: “Cases like Esther’s makes cosmetic dentistry so worthwhile. It’s truly incredible what can be achieved and how natural veneers can look. She was so traumatised by what had happened and we did everything we could to turn things around for her very quickly.”

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Milkman hopes to be the cream



Semi-finalist in the 'Milkman of the Year' contest, John Vanes, of Dudley, at Dairy Crest depot, Wolverhampton

DEDICATED John Vanes hopes to be the cream of the crop in a competition to find the Milkman of the Year. The 58-year-old, who lives in Dudley but delivers in Wolverhampton and Bewdley, is through to the semi-final of the competition. He followed in his father's footsteps by taking on the rounds more than 30 years ago. John was presented with a certificate and £250 shopping vouchers for getting this far in the competition. The winner was being announced today (Thursday). The semi-finalists were chosen after customers throughout the country voted for their favourite. Ron Rennie, manager of the Wolverhampton Dairy Crest depot where John is based, said: "John is an outstanding milkman who goes out of his way to do his best for his customers."

Ear bitten in club brawl

A BRAWL in a night club beer garden ended with a thug partially biting off the ear of another man who has been left scarred for life. The fracas at The Glass House in Stourbridge started with some pushing, but quickly escalated into a fight between 17-year-old John Brogan and Kieron Lavelle, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. The 33-year-old ended up on the ground under the teenager while also being battered by a third man. In desperation, he bit into the ear of Mr Brogan and refused to let go, causing serious injury and lifetime scarring. "The injured party described the pain as awful," said Mr Gareth Walters, prosecuting. "He kept asking the defendant to let go but he would not." Lavelle left after the club's security staff broke up the fight but was arrested soon afterwards. Mr Brogan's ear was partially torn off and badly damaged in the attack, said Mr Walters. Stitches were required and there is permanent scarring. The victim had been to a boxing match and another club before reaching the Glass House, the court was told. Mr Michael Anning, defending, said there was a strong element of two against one, but Lavelle was guilty of using 'excessive self defence.' Lavelle from Olympian Court, Kidderminster, who had previous convictions for affray, wounding, battery and assault, admitted wounding during the May 12 brawl and was jailed for two years three months.

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Yew Tree Nursing Home is a well established home located in the picturesque rural village of Romsley, close to the Post Office, Shops and Pub.

With 41 bedrooms over 2 floors the home is set in extensive grounds with both patio areas and sun terraces overlooking the beautiful countryside and beyond. There is also a secluded and enclosed ornamental patio area which is accessible at anytime enabling the residents to grow herbs and vegetables and to take part in gardening activities as part of their daily living. Alternatively, residents can just relax in one of the many seating areas and enjoy the fresh air and peaceful location of the home with only the sound of the wind chimes, the water feature and occasionally the hens or pony saying



hello to break the ambience.

There are 4 lounges to choose from each with its own unique personality. The front lounge is located within our specialised Dementia Unit which has recently undergone a full refurbishment. The Garden Lounge is the largest in the home with a bright and airy feel with countryside views and accessibility for

all residents to the outside Sun Terrace. We also have 2 quaint lounges which have a more private, intimate and relaxing environment, ideal for family visits and special occasions.

Yew Tree Nursing Home also has its own pets. We have Duncan the Shetland Pony, Gemma the Cat, Joe the budgerigar, John and James the Guinea Pigs and a brood of hens collectively called the Cheeky Girls. Pets often expand the sociability of older people and have a positive benefit on our residents well-being.

Yew Tree have also been awarded the 'Gold Standards Framework' in Care Homes. The GSF (Gold Standards Framework) is a systematic, evidence based approach to optimising care for all patients approaching the end of their life.



Yew Tree Nursing Home also organise day trips throughout the Spring and Summer and also have Stag and Hen Parties whenever a member of staff is getting married.

Yew Tree Nursing Home aims to provide its residents with a secure, relaxed and homely environment in which their care, well-being and comfort is of prime importance. All staff will preserve and maintain dignity, individuality and privacy of all residents within a warm and caring environment and in doing so will be sensitive to the residents ever changing needs.

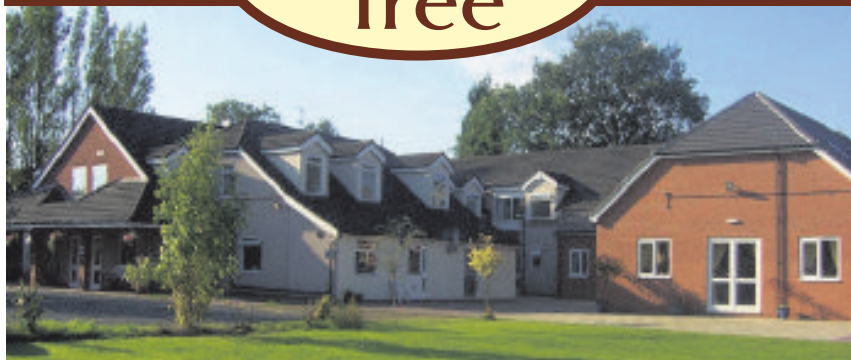
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London is known the world over for its spectacular sights, fabulous West End Shows and fantastic shopping – from the market stalls at Covent Garden to the bustling fashion stores of Oxford Street and luxury department stores of Harrods and Fortnum & Mason. The city is packed with things to see and do, and during the festive season it truly sparkles.

This special break starts with a trip into theatreland to see one of the many shows on offer: Beautiful, Billy Elliot, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Elf the Musical, Lion King, Jersey Boys, Kinky Boots, Les Mis, Mamma Mia!, Phantom of the Opera, War Horse and Wicked.

As the countdown to the New Year celebrations begin, soak up the atmosphere in the capital before dining in the hotel and dancing the night away until the midnight chimes herald the start of 2016. The following day, after a leisurely breakfast, head back into central London for the traditional New Year's Day parade and see 10,000 performers – it's a spectacular sight.

Price includes:

- Return coach travel
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- Standard ticket from a choice of shows (upgrades offered)
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- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

fast the ticket

Folk star Ange

Interview – Page 21



Snakecharmer
rock on – Page 21



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The Proclaimers



Sunday, 7.30pm
New Alexandra, B'ham
 They have carved a niche for themselves where pop, folk, new wave and punk collide and their extensive touring has enlightened and entertained fans new and old.
 Visit www.atgtickets.com

ABC



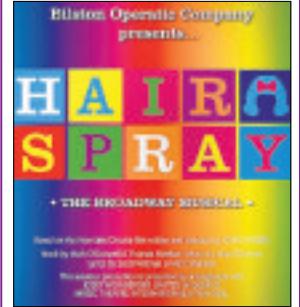
Monday, 7pm
Symphony Hall, B'ham
 ABC returns to Symphony Hall with the Southbank Sinfonia Orchestra and conductor Anne Dudley for a very special show performing the classic debut album *The Lexicon of Love*.
 Visit www.thsh.co.uk

Jim Davidson



Sun, Tue, Thu
Stafford, B'ham, Lichfield
 He's like Marmite – you either love him or hate him. Davidson will appear at Stafford Gatehouse, the New Alex, B'ham and Lichfield Garrick over the next week. Adults only.
 Visit theatre websites

Hairspray



Tues - Nov 14
Grand Theatre, W'ton
 This fantastic fun show is based on the 1988 John Waters film *Hairspray* and the songs include 1960s style dance music and downtown rhythm and blues.
 Visit www.grandtheatre.co.uk

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*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single rooms subject to availability – supplement applies.

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

For a theatre brochure or a list of our current breaks, please call the promotions team on (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), or go to expressandstar.com/starextratravel

Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

POP & ROCK

Protomartyr
 Fri at 7pm - 10pm, £8
 The Rainbow, Digbeth, Birmingham, B12 0LD.
 Call 0121 753 1818

Ella Eyre
 Wed at 7pm, £16
 O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Samantha Fish
 Wed at 8.30pm - 10.50pm, £13.50 - £15
 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Kadavar
 Wed at 7pm, £12.50
 Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

Antarctic Monkeys: Arctic Monkeys Tribute
 Sat at 7pm - 11pm, £11
 O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

We Are The Ocean
 Mon at 8pm, £12
 Asylum, Hockley, Birmingham, B19 3LS. Call 0121 233 1109

Dirty DC: AC/DC Tribute
 Sat at 12am, £10
 The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

Jah Wobble's Invaders Of The Heart
 Thu at 7.30pm, £16 - £18
 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Secret Affair
 Sat at 6.30pm - 10pm, £20
 The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

The Proclaimers
 Sun at 7.30pm, £29.50
 New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS. Call 0844 871 3011

Titus Andronicus
 Tue at 8pm, £12
 Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

Nell Bryden
 Tue at 7pm - 11pm, £14.50
 The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

LA Priest
 Wed at 8pm, £9
 Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

The Coronas
 Sat at 6.30pm - 10pm, £10
 The Rainbow, Birmingham, B12 0LD. Call 0121 753 1818

The Bootleg Sixties
 Tue at 8pm, £19.50
 Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330

Eagles Of Death Metal
 Fri at 6pm, £18.50
 The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Julia Holter
 Wed at 7pm - 11pm, £13
 The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Dutch Uncles
 Wed at 8pm, £10
 Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

Happy Mondays
 Fri at 6.30pm, £28.50
 O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

ABC
 Mon at 7pm, £45 - £129
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Top Ten Beatles
 Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm,
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Hang The Bastard
 Thu at 7pm,
 Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

Marty Wilde & The Wildcats
 Sun at 7.30pm,
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Lawson
 Mon at 7pm - 11pm,
 O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

The Stylistics
 Tue at 7.30pm, £22
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Tracer
 Fri at 7.30pm, £13
 Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

Vampires Rock - Ghost Train
 Thu at 7.30pm, £23 - £27.90
 New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS. Call 0844 871 3011

Bee Gees Fever: Bee Gees Tribute
 Sat at 7.30pm,
 The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster, DY10 2RX. Call 01562 743745

Ian Prowse & Amsterdam
 Fri at 7pm, £12.10
 Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

Heroes & Villains
 Sun at 7.30pm, £18.50
 The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

Miss Understood: Pink Tribute
 Fri at 7.30pm, £8
 The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

Fleetwood Bac: Fleetwood Mac Tribute
 Fri at 9pm, £8 - £16
 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Crobot
 Sat at 7pm, £10
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Just Floyd: Pink Floyd Tribute
 Sun at 1pm, £8 - £10
 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Sheelanagig
 Thu at 7.30pm - 11pm, £10
 Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

JAZZ & BLUES

Kent DuChaine
 Tue at 9pm, Free
 The Jam House, Birmingham, B31QU. Call 0121 200 3030

The Swing Commanders
 Sat at 8pm,
 Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330

Goggie Ifill And Bethan Jones
 Sat at 10.30am,
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

Cor Glanaethwy
 Sat at 7pm, £17.50 - £35
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

CSO 2015-16 Winter Dreams
 Wed at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £45
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Stourport-On-Severn Brass Band
 Fri at 7.30pm,
 The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster, DY10 2RX. Call 01562 743745

Nathaniel Vallois And David Quigley
 Fri at 1.10pm, Free
 Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham, B15 2TS. Call 0121 414 7333

John Wilson And The John Wilson Orchestra
 Thu at 7.30pm - 9.30pm, £25 - £46
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Bach Doubled With Tamsin Waley-Cohen And David Le Page
 Wed at 2.30pm - 4.30pm, £8.50 - £23.50
 Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

British Carnatic Choir Grand Premiere
 Sat at 6pm, £12 - £18
 Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham City University, B3 3HG. Call 0121 331 5901

Katie Stillman & Simon Lane: Bromsgrove Concerts 2015/16
 Fri at 8pm,
 Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330

CSO 2015-16 - A Young Person's Guide To The Orchestra
 Sun at 2.30pm, £10
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

THEATRE

Les Ballets Trockadero De Monte Carlo
 Tue at 7.30pm - 10pm, Wed at 2pm - 4.30pm, 7.30pm - 10pm, £15 - £34.50
 Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Shakespeare Schools Festival
 Mon at 7pm,
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Rock' N 'Roll To Broadway
 Wed at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
 Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE. Call 01543 578762

Dr Jekyll And Mr Hyde
 Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
 Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE. Call 01543 578762

Les Miserables: A West Bromwich Operatic Society
 Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Brummegem Pals
 Sat at 7.30pm,
 Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

'Allo 'Allo
 Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm,
 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Lord Of The Flies
 Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2pm, 7.30pm, £8.50 - £35
 Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Hairspray: Bilston Operatic Company
 Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £8.50 - £19
 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Brave New World
 Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £10.50 - £25.50
 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Jesus Christ Superstar
 Fri at 7.30pm - 10pm, Sat at 2pm - 5pm, 7.30pm - 10pm, £20 - £42.50
 Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

COMEDY

Kevin Bridges: A Whole Different Story
 Fri at 8pm, £28.80
 Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, B2 2AA. Call 0121 780 4141

Nina Conti: In Your Face
 Wed at 8pm, £18.50
 Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

Harry Enfield & Paul Whitehouse: Legends!
 Sat at 7.30pm, £32.50 - £41.25
 Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, B2 2AA. Call 0121 780 4141

Stephen K Amos: The Laughter Master
 Wed at 7.30pm,
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Jim Davidson: Charlton Nil
 Sun at 7.30pm, £23.50 - £26.40
 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Just For Graphs
 Thu at 8pm, £13 - £15
 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Festival Of The Spoken Nerd: Just For Graphs
 Thu at 8pm, £13 - £15
 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Jimmy Carr: Funny Business
 Fri at 8pm, £25
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Coleridge trail left Ange in Esteesees

By Danny Farragher
WE'RE all guilty of missing the history on our doorstep.

Often other people point out what's interesting or historic about what we pass by every day.

This happened to folk singer Ange Hardy in a spectacular way.

What is remarkable is not just that she was unaware of one of world's most famous romantic poets, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, literally being under her nose but also the way she addressed the shortfall in her knowledge.

Hardy lives in a little village just outside Watchet, Somerset which is about half way along The Coleridge Way, a trail the poet famed for such epics as The Rime of the Ancient Mariner and Kubla Khan walked. She however was blissfully unaware of the significance of the route.

"I think having left school really early and my past of running away and being out of the education circles from about 13 onwards I was just never in the right place or with the right people to learn about Coleridge.

"I didn't even realise Coleridge was a he, I thought it was just the name of the walk. So I really had no idea at all."

The idea then of basing her new album Esteesees - which is how the poet liked to sign himself, on him and his works seem even more bizarre.

"My husband came up with the idea. He started talking about Coleridge and said I should write a song about him."

The idea then formed into an entire album in Hardy's mind, "It was



Ange Hardy will be performing her new album in Birmingham

a huge risk," she admits. What lay ahead for the acclaimed singer/songwriter was a massive cramming session.

"I spent about two weeks with my head buried in books from morning to night and listening to readings. Then I just pieced together all the bits that

inspired me." Ange Hardy is performing songs from Esteesees at the Kitchen Garden Cafe, King's Heath, Birmingham on Monday November 9. The show starts 8pm and tickets are £9 in advance or £11 on the night. Visit www.kitchengardencafe.co.uk and www.angehardy.com

Fireworks promised



IT promises to be an explosive bonfire night in Bilston tonight as rock band Snakecharmer provide the fireworks.

The supergroup, made up of former members from the likes of Whitesnake, Wishbone Ash and Magnum, perform at the Robin 2 in Mount Pleasant.

The band is made up of six of the UK's most highly-esteemed and experienced rock musicians.

Original Whitesnake guitarist Micky Moody and bandmate, bassist Neil Murray, teamed up with Laurie Wisehead (Wishbone Ash guitarist), Thunder and Magnum drummer

"They're the genuine article"

Harry James (Thunder, Magnum), Adam Wakeman, who played keyboards and acoustic guitar for Ozzy Osbourne) and Black Sabbath and Heartland vocalist Chris Ousey.

They perform classic twin-guitar based rock. A spokesman for the band said: "With a live set comprising material from their critically-acclaimed Snakecharmer album, coupled with such Whitesnake classics as Ready And Willing, Fool For Your Loving,

Take Me With You, Walking In The Shadow Of The Blues and Here I Go Again, Snakecharmer is the genuine article."

Snakecharmer are currently writing for the follow up to their self-titled debut album. Tonight's concert is the only chance to see the supergroup locally as they also perform in Sheffield, Glasgow, Newcastle, London and Cardiff during the nine-date tour. Call 0844 477 2000.

Reid all about it as twins top bill

TWIN brothers Craig and Charlie Reid will have Birmingham rocking when they perform at the New Alexandra Theatre this weekend.

The duo have tasted huge success around the globe with the likes of Letter From America, Sunshine on Leith and I'm Gonna Be) 500 Miles, enjoying gold and platinum singles and albums in UK, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand in the process. They perform on Sunday (November 8).

The second city also plays host to 80s legends ABC the following evening at the Symphony Hall.

The Institute hosts Twenty One Pilots on Monday and Nell Bryden the next night.

Funnyman Kevin bridges the gap

IT'S comedy central in Birmingham this week as a number of top acts perform.

Scottish funnyman Kevin Bridges sets the ball rolling with his brand new show, A Whole Different Story, at the Barclaycard Arena tomorrow night (Friday).

Also on at the Barclaycard Arena, on Saturday, will be Harry Enfield and Paul Whitehouse.

Elsewhere in the city, Bridges will vie for top billing with Jimmy Carr tomorrow night as he plays the Symphony Hall.

He will be followed by ventriloquist Nina Conti who is at the Town Hall on November 11.

When comedy and ballet mix

THE boys are back in town... in size 12 point shoes. Hurling through the classical ballet repertoire with their inimitable blend of skill, grace and wit, Les Ballet Trockadero de Monte carol perform at Birmingham Hippodrome next week.

Enjoy show-stopping Swan Lake (Act II), Merce Cunningham-inspired Patterns in Space, Go For Barocco, a satire on Balanchine's choreography, and the delightful Don Quixote on Tuesday and Wednesday (November 10 and 11).

For the Tuesday show there is a chance to attend a post-show question and answer session given by troupe members.

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The traditional chicken red curry is the county's best



Mini money bags – the duck dim sum



The chicken satay was a favourable way to start the feast



Fine dining – raise a glass to quality Thai food

Chef Suree's a winner as King and Thai retains its number one crown

THAI cook Suree Coates is one of Shropshire's most decorated chefs, having been named the UK Thai Chef of the Year a couple of years back and then bettering that by being crowned the Asian Chef of the Year.

More recently, her qualities have been recognised by The Good Food Guide, where inclusion is hard to come by; in Shropshire, only seven restaurants feature.

The King & Thai in Broseley is listed in that as a Local Gem and deserving of inclusion. Suree is one of the county's best. Arguably her greatest ability is to fashion exciting and exotic flavours that are deep, rich and rewarding.

Her freshly-made sauces and pastes are heavenly. She learned how to make them while growing up in her native Thailand,

By Andy Richardson

where she used a pestle and mortar to combine freshly-picked herbs and aromats. She uses the same techniques to this day – and it shows. Suree offers dishes that offer the same flavours that you'd find in downtown Phitsanulok. Her flavours are vibrant and subtle; explosive and entertaining. She's a crackerjack cook who has as good an understanding of Asian seasonings as any chef in the county.

My friend and I have eaten at The King & Thai frequently. For this critic's shilling, it remains the county's number one; with Ludlow's Chang Thai Bar and Shrewsbury's recently-opened Aroi Thai not far behind. Suree moves ahead of her good-but-not-better rivals on most fronts: principally presentation, innovation and flavour.

When we arrived, the helpful and bubbly

waitress showed us through to the dining room. It was festooned with Buddhas, colourful photographs and other Thai ephemera. The menu featured the normal Thai classics in addition to numerous specials. Starters include a duck dim sum with plum sauce. Alongside that was a Thai custard, served in a mini pumpkin, with prawns.

My friend opted for the duck dim sum while I ordered chicken satay. Both were delicious. The dim sum – some crunchy-fried and some soft-and-steamed – were light and boldly seasoned. The plum sauce was swirled concentrically across the plate and provided a balanced accompaniment.

The satay was brilliant. My friend and I swapped dim sum for satay in an impromptu game of Thai mix'n'match.

We thought long and hard about the daily specials before ordering the county's best Thai red curry and the county's best

Thai green curry. Neither disappointed. Both oozed subtle and delicate flavour. The chicken and vegetables that were contained had been lightly cooked while the presentation was as pretty as a picture.

Rather than request dessert, we asked the chef to choose. She provided a tasting platter, including a playful coconut panna cotta, an indulgent chocolatey, fudgy cube that was dense, rich and satisfying and more. The only underwhelming element was a deep-fried ice cream sandwich.

Suree deserves all credit for pushing the envelope when it comes to Thai cuisine. Unlike most local, neighbourhood chefs, she creates imaginative dishes, daring to combine different ingredients to fashion something new.

Her presentation is delightful, her flavours exemplary and there's not a finer Thai restaurant in the region.

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|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| <div></div> <div>Gregory Porter</div> <div>Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance 2015 (BBC1, 9pm) Huw Edwards presents coverage of the annual event from the Royal Albert Hall in the presence of the Queen and other members of the royal family. Rod Stewart, Pixie Lott, Andrea Bocelli and Gregory Porter perform alongside the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, the Queen's Colour Squadron, the Band of HM Royal Marines and the Band and Pipes of the Brigade of Gurkhas. Together they pay tribute to the victims of conflict, from the First World War to the present day, in a festival that also includes the traditional two-minute silence as thousands of poppy petals fall from the venue's ceiling.</div> | <div>6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Simply Nigella. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Football Focus. 1.00 Bargain Hunt. (R) 2.00 Rugby League, England v New Zealand (Kick-off 2.30pm). 4.30 Final Score. 5.20 BBC News. 5.30 Regional Programme. 5.40 Pointless Celebrities. 6.30 Strictly Come Dancing. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present another round of dancing action as the twinkle-toed celebrities compete to stay out of the bottom two – and hopefully avoid the same fate as last week's eliminated couple. 8.00 Doctor Who. In the second part of the adventure which started last week, the Zygons have taken over, and the future of Earth is sealed in a box back in Unit's archive. But with the military organisation under the shapeshifting aliens' control and Clara missing, the Doctor and Oswin find themselves fugitives in a city where no one can be trusted. But even if the Time Lord can stop a war, can he also save his friends? Peter Capaldi stars as the time-travelling boffin, with Jenna Coleman as his trusty sidekick and Ingrid Oliver as Unit advisor Oswin. 8.50 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin is on hand to provide news of the all-important winning numbers. 9.00 Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance 2015. Huw Edwards presents coverage of the annual event from the Royal Albert Hall in the presence of the Queen and other members of the royal family. Rod Stewart, Pixie Lott, Andrea Bocelli and Gregory Porter perform alongside the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, the Queen's Colour Squadron, the Band of HM Royal Marines and the Band and Pipes of the Brigade of Gurkhas. Together they pay tribute to the victims of conflict, from the First World War to the present day, in a festival that also includes the traditional two-minute silence as thousands of poppy petals fall from the venue's ceiling. 10.40 BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents; National Lottery Update. 12.25 The Apprentice. (R) 1.25 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.30 BBC News.</div> | <div>6.15 Film: The Moon Is Blue. (1953) 7.55 Film: The Captive Heart. (1946) 9.30 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 10.30 The Wonder of Animals. 11.00 Animal SOS. (R) 11.30 Animal SOS. (R) 12.00 My Life on a Plate. (R) 12.45 My Life on a Plate. (R) 1.30 Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) 2.00 Film: Guess Who's Coming to Dinner. (1967) Comedy drama, starring Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn. 3.45 Escape to the Country. (R) 4.30 Demolition: The Wrecking Crew. (R) 5.30 Flog It! (R) 6.30 The Great Pottery Throw Down. Sara Cox invites 10 home pottery enthusiasts to gather in Stoke-on-Trent, where they take part in a competitive throwing contest to determine which of them should be named Top Potter. Through a series of 18 challenges, taking place over the course of 35 days, the competitors will be judged on their craft skills and creativity by ceramic artist Kate Malone and master potter Keith Bryner Jones. The competition gets under way as the amateurs take part in a four-day assignment, in which they must produce a set of stackable kitchen bowls from lumps of earthenware clay. They also face a Spot Test, in which they must attach handles to 20 mugs within a strict time limit, and a Throw Down, where the judges ask them to make as many egg-cups as they can within 20 minutes. (R) 7.30 Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul. The chef continues his journey through Croatia and savours the native oysters of Ston, before crossing the border into Albania, where he is joined by his son Jack. (R) 8.30 Dad's Army. Corporal Jones finds himself cast adrift during an exercise pitting Mainwaring and his home-front heroes against their arch-rival Captain Square. (R) 9.00 QI XL. Host Stephen Fry invites Noel Fielding, Rhod Gilbert and Cariad Lloyd to join regular panelist Alan Davies as he meanders through miscellaneous M-themed matters. 9.45 Film: Song for Marion. (2012) Premiere. Comedy drama, with Terence Stamp, Gemma Arterton and Christopher Eccleston. 11.15 The Many Faces of Richard Wilson. (R) 12.15 Film: Mad City. (1997) 2.05 This Is BBC Two.</div> | <div>6.00 CITY: Bottom Knockor Street. 6.10 Bottom Knockor Street. (R) 6.25 Bottom Knockor Street. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.50 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 7.00 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 7.05 Oddbods. (R) 7.10 Sooty. (R) 7.25 Super 4. (R) 7.40 Adventure Time. 8.00 Marvel Avengers Assemble. 8.30 Thunderbirds Are Go. 9.00 Jessie. 9.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 10.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.25 ITV News; Weather. 11.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.35 Downton Abbey. (R) 1.40 Judge Rinder. (R) 2.45 Doc Martin. (R) 3.45 Film: Death Becomes Her. (1992) Black comedy, starring Goldie Hawn. 5.45 Regional Programme ; Weather. 6.00 ITV News; Weather. 6.15 Catchphrase. Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show in which three contestants guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues, before one of them plays to win £50,000. 7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. Rory Bremner, Laura Tobin, Deborah Meaden and Alan Titchmarsh answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on the Chaser and secure a cash prize for charity. 8.00 The X Factor. The remaining acts line up for the second stage of the nerve-racking live shows. Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present as the competitors receive another chance to demonstrate their talent in the hopes of claiming a place in the live final later this year. Simon Cowell, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini, Nick Grimshaw and Rita Ora are on hand to appraise the would-be stars, and tomorrow's show will see yet another act eliminated following a tense sing-off. 10.20 The Jonathan Ross Show. The host chats to Sheridan Smith about her role in the stage revival of musical Funny Girl, and is also joined by Joan Collins, Danny DeVito and Ariana Grande. 11.25 ITV News; Weather. 11.45 Piers Morgan's Life Stories. Raquel Welch, most famous for her portrayal of the bikini-clad cave girl in the 1966 film One Million Years BC, reflects on her life and career. (R) 11.45 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Andrew Flintoff. (R) 12.40 Jackpot247. 3.00 Show Me the Telly. (R) 3.50 ITV NightScreen.</div> | <div>6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 6.40 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.05 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.30 The Grid. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 Frasier. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. 11.00 The Big Bang Theory. 11.30 The Big Bang Theory. 11.55 The Simpsons. (R) 12.30 The Simpsons. (R) 1.00 The Simpsons. (R) 1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Doncaster, Aintree and Wincanton. 4.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.00 Come Dine with Me. Admin worker Jessica Carroll hosts the final party in Lincolnshire. Despite a lack of culinary knowledge, she hopes her Chinese meal and unusual pet will impress the guests. (R) 6.30 Channel 4 News. 7.00 The Restoration Man. George Clarke meets Mark Horton, who has bought the derelict shell of an 18th-century folly called Bath Lodge in Ormskirk, near Liverpool, with the dream of converting it himself. (R) 8.00 Grand Designs. Kevin McCloud meets Rob Hodgson and Kay Ralph, who plan to build a glass-fronted house on a crumbling cliff-top in Gwynedd, inspired by the villas of California. (R) 9.00 Prison Night. British inmates are given a chance to determine just how authentic some of the world's most popular big-screen depictions of life behind bars really are. A countdown of celebrated prison dramas, thrillers and comedies, as voted for by convicts serving time at Her Majesty's pleasure, reveal which films most accurately convey the realities of confinement. Plus, lifers, great escapes. Brits banged up abroad and prison bosses also provide their perspective on the plausibility of some of the cell-based hijinks devoured by cinema-goers over the ages. 10.35 TFI Friday. Elton John, Julianne Moore, Stanley Tucci, the Maccabees and the Vamps join host Chris Evans for music and chat, with stunts and skits. (R) 11.40 Film: Lockout. (2012) Sci-fi thriller, starring Guy Pearce. 1.25 Fargo. (R) 2.20 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) 3.15 Hollyoaks. (R) 5.20 Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites. (R)</div> | <div>6.00 Milkshake! 8.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. 9.30 The Saturday Show. 11.25 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 12.25 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 1.25 Film: All I Want For Christmas. (2013) Festive fantasy, starring Melissa Sagemiller. 3.05 Film: A Nanny for Christmas. (2010) Romantic comedy, starring Emmanuelle Vaugier and Richard Ruccolo. 4.50 Film: Mistletoe Over Manhattan. (2011) Christmas fantasy, starring Tricia Helfer and Greg Bryk. 6.35 5 News Weekend. 6.40 Film: Operation Crossbow. (1965) Three Allied engineers parachute into occupied Holland on a mission to infiltrate and destroy a German missile base. The trio team up with the local resistance, but two of the men are unaware the third is a Nazi agent. Second World War adventure, starring George Peppard, Sophia Loren, Trevor Howard, Tom Courtenay and John Mills. 9.00 Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches, as well as all the goals from the Championship, including Huddersfield Town v Leeds United, Nottingham Forest v Derby County, and Hull City v Middlesbrough. Plus, a round-up of the main talking points, and interviews with a selection of players and managers. 10.15 Greatest Comedy Movies – Ever! Special programme celebrating the greatest comedy films ever made, featuring recollections and revelations from stars on both sides of the camera. 11.50 Film: See No Evil, Hear No Evil. (1989) A blind man and his deaf friend go on the run to escape a trumped-up murder charge and crooks tracking down a top-secret microchip. Comedy, starring Richard Pryor and Gene Wilder. 1.35 The Gadget Show. Jon Bentley investigates mobile phone networks, while Jason Bradbury and Amy Williams look into cutting-edge technology for hairdressers and models. (R) 2.25 SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. 4.00 Gift of Life. A former Merchant Navy sailor with a severe heart condition awaits a transplant. Last in the series. 4.50 Make It Big. (R) 5.45 Angels of Jarm. (R)</div> | <div>BBC Three 7.00 Great Movie Mistakes V: Revenge of the Fifth 7.15 Don't Tell the Bride 8.15 Top Gear 9.15 Russell Howard's Good News 10.15 Film: Halloween: Resurrection (2022) 11.45 Family Guy 1.55 Together 2.25 Rent a Cop 2.55 Asian Provocateur 3.25 The Fear 3.55 Close BBC Four 7.00 Tutankhamun: The Truth Uncovered 8.00 Lost Kingdoms of Central America 9.00 Arne Dahl: Afterquake – Part One 10.00 Arne Dahl: Afterquake – Part Two 11.00 Ultimate Covers at the BBC 12.00 Better Than The Original: The Joy of the Cover Version 1.00 Sing's Dylan 2.00 Top of the Pops: 1980 2.35 Lost Kingdoms of Central America 3.35 Close ITV2 12.10 The Xtra Factor 1.10 Tricked 2.10 Catchphrase 2.50 You've Been Framed! 3.20 Film: The Little Vampire (2000) 5.15 Film: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (2004) 7.10 Film: Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989) 9.00 Film: The Fast and the Furious (2001) 11.10 Celebrity Juice 11.55 The Almost Impossible Gameshow 12.55 Release the Hounds 1.50 Tricked 2.40 Teleshopping 5.40 ITV2 Nightscreen ITV3 2.00 Rosemary & Thyme 3.00 Agatha Christie's Marple 4.55 Film: Columbo: Negative Reaction (1974) 7.00 Doc Martin 8.00 Midsomer Murders 10.00 Lewis 12.00 Inspector Morse 2.05 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping ITV4 11.35 The Professionals 1.40 Pawn Stars 3.25 Storage Wars 4.20 Storage Wars: New York 6.20 Film: Red River (1948) 9.00 Film: Tremors (1989) 11.00 Film: Raw Deal (1986) 1.10 The Big Fish Off 2.10 Minder 3.00 Teleshopping E4 11.00 The Goldbergs 12.00 Film: Aliens in the Attic (2009) 1.40 Rude(ish) Tube Shorts 2.00 Made in Chelsea 3.00 Film: See Spot Run (2001) 5.00 The Big Bang Theory 8.00 Film: Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (2009) 11.00 Gogglebox 12.35 The Inbetweeners 1.40 The IT Crowd 2.45 How I Met Your Mother 3.50 2 Broke Girls 4.15 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 4.35 Revenge Film4 1.00 Live Children and I (2004) 2.45 Martin in the Winter (1995) 4.45 Tooth Fairy (2010) 6.50 Mission: Impossible (1996) 9.00 Knight and Day (2010) 11.10 Sorority Row (2009) 1.10 The Social Network (2010) 3.35 Close</div> |

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CHOICE



Michelle Dockery

Downton Abbey (ITV, 9pm)
Bertie's circumstances change suddenly, leaving Edith uncertain whether to risk telling him the truth or keep her past a secret at all costs. Mary wonders if she can ever make peace with her sister as hostilities escalate, Spratt shows some hidden talents and Molesley's first day as a teacher does not go according to plan. Mrs Patmore's bed and breakfast attracts unwanted attention, leaving her in need of the Crawleys' help. The last episode of the final series, although the Crawleys will return one last time for a Christmas special. Last in the series.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.25** Remembrance Sunday: The Cenotaph. **12.20** Regional Programme. **1.30** BBC News: Weather. **1.45** Lifestile. **1.55** FA Cup Final Score. An FA Cup edition of the football results and report show. **3.00** Points of View. **3.15** The People Remember. **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.50** The Hunt. (R) **5.50** BBC News. **6.10** Regional Programme. **6.15** **Countryfile**. Reports on rural issues in Cambridgeshire. Matt Baker reveals how students have long had an impact on rural affairs, Joe Crowley finds out about the restoration of the Great Fen and the recovery of a crashed Spitfire, Ellie Harrison uncovers stories about the Peak District from the Second World War, and Adam Henson meets JB Gill of pop group JLS, who is running a turkey farm. Including Weather For The Week Ahead. **7.15** **Strictly Come Dancing: The Results**. Tess Day and Claudia Winkelman present the results of last night's show. Seal performs the music and the professionals perform a Remembrance Day routine. **8.00** **Antiques Roadshow**. Fiona Bruce presents the second programme this year from RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire, and discovers the story of a length of tree that ended up inside a Lancaster bomber. Treasures brought in to be valued include a harp that survived the French Revolution, a curious wooden item with an unexpected purpose, a diamond brooch found hidden inside a barometer and a pair of Second World War propaganda posters printed on hessian sacking. **9.00** **The Hunt**. A look at how predators living in the Arctic have to constantly adapt their hunting strategies as the environment around them radically changes. **10.00** BBC News. **10.20** Regional Programme. **10.30** **Match of the Day 2**. Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action, which featured Arsenal v Tottenham Hotspur, Aston Villa v Manchester City and Liverpool v Crystal Palace. **11.45** **Citizen Khan**. (R) **12.15** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.20** BBC News.

BBC2

7.00 The Big Allotment Challenge. (R) **8.00** Countryfile's Ramble for Children In Need. (R) **9.15** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.45** My Life on a Plate. (R) **11.30** My Life on a Plate. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **3.00** FA Cup Final Score. The FA Cup edition of the football results and report show continues. **4.15** Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) **4.45** Flog It! (R) **5.30** Remembrance Sunday: The Cenotaph. **6.30** **Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights**. Action from the weekend's first-round matches, as the 20 non-league teams to progress through the qualifying rounds competed alongside the 48 League One and League Two clubs. Standout ties in this opening round included Notts County's trip to Salford City – part-owned by former Manchester United stars Gary and Phil Neville, Paul Scholes, Ryan Giggs and Nicky Butt. Elsewhere, part-timers Dicot Town hosted Exeter City, and 2013 winners Wigan Athletic took the short trip to face League One rivals Bury. **8.00** **Earth's Wildest Waters: The Big Fish**. The semi-final is held in Canada, where the anglers go searching for Pacific salmon, bull trout and white sturgeon and discover how fish migrations drive the country's ecosystem. **9.00** **Film: Looper**. (2012) In the future, a crime syndicate uses time travel to dispose of people without trace, sending them back 30 years to be killed by hitmen. One of the assassins employed by the Mob finds his latest target is himself as an older man, and both versions go on the run as they try to change the course of history. Sci-fi thriller, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt. **10.50** **Family Guy**. Peter befriends a man named Mahmoud while recovering from a sky-diving accident in hospital, but Quagmire and Joe are immediately suspicious of this charismatic newcomer. **11.10** **Family Guy**. Mayor West becomes the prime suspect when a murder is committed at his mansion – but once his trial begins, one of the jurors begins to doubt his guilt. **11.30** **Top Coppers**. **12.00** **Film: Return from the River Kwai**. (1988) **1.35** Sign Zone: Countryfile's Ramble for Children In Need. (R) **2.50** Holby City. (R) **3.50** This is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITY: Bottom Kicker Street. **6.10** Bottom Kicker Street. (R) **6.25** Bottom Kicker Street. **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.10** Sooty. (R) **7.25** Super 4. (R) **7.40** Matt Hatter Chronicles. **8.00** Marvel Avengers Assemble. (R) **8.30** Fish Hooks. **9.00** Horrible Science. **9.25** FIA Formula E Championship. **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **11.15** ITV News: Weather. **11.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.30** The Chase. (R) **2.25** The X Factor. (R) **4.40** **Film: Nanny McPhee** and the Big Bang. (2010) Fantasy comedy, starring Emma Thompson. **6.40** **Regional Programme: Weather**. **6.50** **ITV News: Weather**. **7.00** **Jeikyll and Hyde**. Robert uses some of his grandfather's potions to cure himself of his alter ego, whom he is desperate to keep secret from Lily, and also discovers his grandmother may still be alive. **8.00** **The X Factor**. Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present the results of last night's vote, before the lowest scoring acts compete in a sing-off to determine which of them will leave the competition. **9.00** **Downton Abbey**. Bertie's circumstances change suddenly, leaving Edith uncertain whether to risk telling him the truth or keep her past a secret at all costs. Mary wonders if she can ever make peace with her sister as hostilities escalate, Spratt shows some hidden talents and Molesley's first day as a teacher does not go according to plan. Mrs Patmore's bed and breakfast attracts unwanted attention, leaving her in need of the Crawleys' help. The last episode of the final series, although the Crawleys will return one last time for a Christmas special. Last in the series. **10.40** **ITV News: Weather**. **10.50** **Off Her Rockers**. A foul-mouthed nun runs amok, Seb gets advice on attending a naturist wedding and Dave gives a member of the public his lucky pants. (R) **11.20** **Premiership Rugby Union**. Action from the fourth round of fixtures, which included Northampton Saints v Saracens. **12.15** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **6.45** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.10** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Frasier. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** The Simpsons. (R) **9.00** The Simpsons. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **12.55** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** The Simpsons. (R) **1.55** The Simpsons. (R) **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** The Simpsons. (R) **3.25** The Simpsons. (R) **3.50** The Simpsons. (R) **4.20** The Simpsons. **4.50** **Film: The Simpsons Movie**. (2007) Animated comedy, with the voice of Dan Castellaneta. **6.30** **Channel 4 News**. **7.00** **Restoring Britain's Landmarks**. Alastair Dick-Cleland visits the engine house at Danescombe, where a refurbishment is underway, while John Evetts searches for an antique telescope to complete the tower at Belmont House in Lyme Regis. Plus, Anna Gray explores the story behind the Victorian star gazer Dr Bangay. (R) **8.00** **Great Canal Journeys**. Timothy West and Prunella Scales go to Ireland and travel along the Shannon Erne Waterway, a canal linking the North to the South. Along the way, they try some traditional dancing and folk singing, visit historic sites including Crom Castle and Bloody Pass, and meet a genealogist with a fascinating story to tell. Last in the series. **9.00** **Homeland**. The Hacktivists plans gather steam, as Quinn covers for Carrie as Dar and Allison assess the damage. Thriller following a team of CIA agents battling terrorists and problems in their personal lives. Claire Danes stars. **10.00** **Gogglebox**. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. Narrated by Caroline aherne. (R) **11.05** **Film: The American**. (2010) A hitman lies low in an Italian village after a brush with death, and tempts fate by pursuing a relationship with a local woman. Thriller, with George Clooney and Violante Placido. **1.00** Grand Designs Australia. **1.55** Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners. (R) **2.50** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.35** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.30** 1001 Things You Should Know. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.45** Ticky Tock. (R) **6.55** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Hoorabarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.30** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.15** Blaze and the Monster Machines. **8.45** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.00** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **9.10** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.25** Jelly Jam. (R) **9.40** Football League Tonight. (R) **11.00** 5 News Special: Remembrance Sunday. **11.05** The Secret Life of Pets. (R) **11.35** **Film: The Town Christmas** Forgot. (2010) **1.20** **Film: The Christmas Bunny**. Alastair Dick-Cleland visits the engine house at Danescombe, where a refurbishment is underway, while John Evetts searches for an antique telescope to complete the tower at Belmont House in Lyme Regis. Plus, Anna Gray explores the story behind the Victorian star gazer Dr Bangay. (R) **8.00** **Great Canal Journeys**. Timothy West and Prunella Scales go to Ireland and travel along the Shannon Erne Waterway, a canal linking the North to the South. Along the way, they try some traditional dancing and folk singing, visit historic sites including Crom Castle and Bloody Pass, and meet a genealogist with a fascinating story to tell. Last in the series. **9.00** **Homeland**. The Hacktivists plans gather steam, as Quinn covers for Carrie as Dar and Allison assess the damage. Thriller following a team of CIA agents battling terrorists and problems in their personal lives. Claire Danes stars. **10.00** **Gogglebox**. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. Narrated by Caroline aherne. (R) **11.05** **Film: The American**. (2010) A hitman lies low in an Italian village after a brush with death, and tempts fate by pursuing a relationship with a local woman. Thriller, with George Clooney and Violante Placido. **1.00** Grand Designs Australia. **1.55** Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners. (R) **2.50** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.35** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.30** 1001 Things You Should Know. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Top Gear. **8.00** Don't Tell the Bride. **9.00** **Film: Blades of Glory** (2007) **10.30** Russell Howard's Good News. **11.30** Family Guy. **12.15** American Dad! **12.40** Family Guy. **1.00** Rent a Cop. **1.30** Together – The Good, the Bad and the Ugly. **11.30** Horizon: Solar Storms – The Threat to Planet Earth. **12.30** Sing's Dylan. **1.10** James May at the Edge of Space. **1.40** Madness in the Desert: Paris to Dakar Rally. **2.40** In Conversation. **3.40** Close. **4.00** Close. **BBC Four**
7.00 Killer Whales: Beneath the Surface – Natural World. **8.00** Dames of Classic Drama at the BBC. **9.00** In Conversation. **10.00** The Sky at Night. **10.30** Horizon: Asteroids – The Good, the Bad and the Ugly. **11.30** Horizon: Solar Storms – The Threat to Planet Earth. **12.30** Sing's Dylan. **1.10** James May at the Edge of Space. **1.40** Madness in the Desert: Paris to Dakar Rally. **2.40** In Conversation. **3.40** Close. **4.00** Close. **ITV2**
2.00 The Almost Impossible Gameshow. **3.00** **Film: Nim's Island** (2008) **4.55** **Film: Space Jam** (1996) **6.40** **Film: Kindergarten Cop** (1990) **9.00** The Xtra Factor. **10.00** **Film: 2 Fast 2 Furious** (2003) **12.10** Viral top. **12.55** Reality Bites. **1.40** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records. **2.05** Ariana Grande: The Hot Desk. **2.15** Teleshopping. **ITV3**
2.30 Jane Eyre. **4.45** Midsomer Murders. **6.50** Sunday Night at the Palladium. **7.55** Wycliffe. **9.00** Joanna Lumley: The Search for Noah's Ark. **10.30** Birds of a Feather. **11.00** **Film: Out of Sight** (1998) **1.25** Agatha Christie's Marple. **3.00** Doctor at Large. **3.25** ITV3 Nightscreen. **3.40** Emmerdale. **ITV4**
12.25 Pawn Stars. **2.15** The Car Chasers. **3.20** **Film: Red River** (1948) **6.00** British Touring Car Championship. **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union. **9.00** **Film: Eraser** (1996) **11.20** **Film: The Wicker Man** (1973) **1.15** Whisker Wars. **2.10** I Want That Car. **3.00** Teleshopping. **E4**
2.30 Couples Come Dine with Me. **4.30** The Big Bang Theory. **8.00** **Film: Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** (2009) **10.05** The Inbetweeners. **11.15** The IT Crowd. **12.15** First Dates. **1.15** Drifters. **1.50** Chewing Gum. **2.25** Tattoos After Dark. **3.15** Hollywood. **Film4**
1.00 Catch That Kid. (2004) **2.45** Von Ryan's Express. (1965) **5.00** Casper. (1995) **7.00** St Trinian's. (2007) **9.00** Pitch Perfect. (2012) **11.10** Stand Up Guys. (2012) **1.00** Vanilla Sky. (2001) **3.45** Close.

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
The Hangover, ITV, 9pm
Three men on a stag weekend in Las Vegas wake up after a night of heavy drinking and find they have not only misplaced the groom, but somehow gained a tiger and a baby. Unable to remember the details of the night before, they set about piecing the clues together in the hope of finding their missing friend. Comedy, starring Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms and Zach Galifianakis. (2009)

TUESDAY
The Mission, BBC1, 11.55pm
The missionary work of Jesuit priests in 18th-century Brazil is threatened by the activities of unscrupulous colonial merchants and rival factions within the Church, leading to a series of tense confrontations which not only endanger their lives but also their faith. Historical drama, starring Robert De Niro, Jeremy Irons, Cherie Lunghi and Ray McAnally. (1986)



The Insider, Wednesday, Channel 4, 12.30am

WEDNESDAY
The Insider, Channel 4, 12.30am
A scientist is fired from his job with a tobacco company, and agrees to expose his former employers' secrets to a journalist – including the allegation that the company had deliberately increased the addictive quality of cigarettes. Michael Mann's fact-based drama, starring Al Pacino and Russell Crowe. (1999)

THURSDAY
Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves, Channel 5, 10pm
An English nobleman returns home from the crusades to find his father has been murdered and the local people are repressed by the tyrannical rule of the Sheriff of Nottingham. Branded an outlaw, he recruits a group of bandits to fight for justice and protect the downtrodden. Action adventure, starring Kevin Costner and Alan Rickman. (1991)

FRIDAY
Cross of Iron, BBC2, 12.45am
A German sergeant on the Russian front in 1943 is sickened by an officer who risks men's lives for his own glory. Sam Peckinpah's Second World War drama, starring James Coburn, Maximilian Schell, James Mason and David Warner. (1977)

The stars shine brightly in aid of a good cause

How to transform yourself from smooth-talking professional to dribbling idiot in one easy move – host a live TV show.

Those watching at home may think standing in front of a camera and reading an autocue is easy, but for presenters, it can be a living nightmare - especially if something goes wrong and they're left to fill in 'dead air'.

Arguably the biggest and most difficult live TV event of the year is Children in Need, thanks in no small part to the fact it lasts for such a long time. What's more, this year it's being broadcast on Friday 13th – surely a recipe for disaster if ever there was one?

Well, maybe not. After all, it's in the safe hands of Terry Wogan, who seems to thrive on such occasions. He will be joined for the first part of the evening by Tess Daly, who is no stranger to live TV, having co-hosted Strictly Come Dancing with, initially, Bruce Forsyth and latterly with Claudia Winkleman, for the past 11 years. But even she could learn a thing or two from Sir Terry who makes the whole process seem completely effortless – perhaps it's because he's so affable and always does his best to make those appearing in the studio at their ease.

"I'm not a confrontational interviewer," explains Wogan. "It would be easy to be abrasive, but nobody would want to come on the show. Sometimes an interview I think didn't go well was actually very good, and vice versa. You're not always the best judge yourself!"

Despite retiring from his radio show, Terry is as busy as ever, but he claims he'll always have time for this fundraiser.

"It is always a privilege and pleasure, the highest point of my year, to present BBC Children in Need," he says. "This year we are hoping the great British public will give us even more. We've certainly got a fantastic show line-up this year. I know I say that every year but this year really is special."

Although the BBC's first Children's Appeal arrived in 1927, the first

telethon version didn't appear on our screens until 1980, and the aim each year is to beat the previous total. Seeing as a record £32, 620, 469 was raised on the night in 2014, the fundraisers have a tough task ahead of them, but hopefully the public will be inspired to dig deep by the serious stories they hear as well as the entertainment on offer.

Among the highlights on offer during the first, two-and-a-half-hour stint are performances by Ellie Goulding, the Children's Choir, Rod Stewart and Jess Glynne, who performs the evening's official song, Take Me Home.

Also popping up is a Strictly special, which sees Bruce Forsyth return to the ballroom to host an edition featuring the stars of Call the Midwife – has their colleague Helen George, who is currently taking part in the dance challenge, been giving them tips?

Then, in the second half after the news, Rochelle Humes and Nick Grimshaw take over from Daly and help Wogan keep the ball rolling into the wee small hours.



Tess Daly presents Children in Need 2015, Friday, BBC1, 7.30pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
The Shopper's Guide to Saving Money, Channel 4, 8.30pm
We work hard all week, perhaps hoping to let our hair down by indulging in some retail therapy once we clock off. With that in mind, it would be nice to think that when we do splash out, we're getting value for money. But is that the case? This new, four-part programme introduced by Dave Fishwick and Kate Quilton hopes to answer that question by investigating whether we really do get our money's worth for goods and services. They hear from big corporations and industry insiders about how much certain products cost to make before offering tips on securing the best deals for such items as jeans, airline tickets, diamonds, perfume, gas bills and even funerals. But they begin by looking at the cost of taking care of man's best friend before delving into the world of printer ink.

TUESDAY
MasterChef: The Professionals, BBC2, 8pm
New series. Six aspiring chefs compete in the cookery contest, beginning with a test of their basic skills. The first contestants must make the French dessert, a Floating Island, while the remaining three have to cook a blue steak with a green peppercorn

sauce in 15 minutes. Finally, the six chefs cook their own signature dish for judges Monica Galetti, Gregg Wallace and Marcus Wareing. It is their last chance to show off their culinary talent before three of them are sent home, and three become quarter finalists.

WEDNESDAY
Cuffs, BBC1, 8pm
What makes this series stand out from all the other police dramas is its impressive ensemble cast – and they've got plenty to do in this episode. Donna and Lino are on the hunt for an escaped prisoner, but despite the pressure from on high to find him as quickly as possible, they are forced to suspend their search when they come across a life-threatening situation. Elsewhere, a distressing domestic violence case leads Jake and Ryan to come to blows, but when Jo is called in to deal with the fallout, can she persuade the victim to testify against her abusive partner? Meanwhile, Carl joins forces with Felix to look into a spate of muggings that have all targeted private school boys, and in the process gets a new insight into his reclusive boss.

Peep Show, Channel 4, 10pm
New series. The last series of the comedy saw Mark and Jeremy get mildly electrocuted in a field, abandoned by Dobby despite their declarations of love. The final series begins with Mark working in a bank and having a new flatmate, while Jeremy still refuses to apologise for falling in love with Dobby, at least until the time is right. However, the pair have to put their differences aside to help Super Hans maintain his newly clean and healthy lifestyle, and Jeremy's resolve is tested when he becomes in urgent need of a loan.

THURSDAY
Tom Jones & Rob Brydon: One Big Night, BBC1, 8pm
Rob Brydon hosts this spectacular night of comedy and music,

which is in aid of two very good causes – it's not only raising money for Children in Need, it's also paying tribute to one of Britain's best-loved music legends, Tom Jones. As you would expect, Jones will be performing with his band, but he'll also be joined by some very special guests, including James Morrison, Laura Mvula, Dame Evelyn Glennie, The Shires and Chickenshed. And while the music was recorded live the SSE Arena, Wembley, on October 8, there will also be some pre-recorded comedy sketches, looking back at some of the key moments from Jones's long and illustrious career, including a special mini-episode of Brydon and Steve Coogan's series The Trip.

FRIDAY
Live International Football, ITV, 7.30pm
Spain v England (Kick-off 7.45pm). Coverage of the friendly match from Estadio Jose Rico Perez in Alicante, featuring two sides that qualified convincingly for Euro 2016. Reigning European champions Spain won nine and lost just one of their group matches, while Roy Hodgson's men went one better, boasting a 100 per cent record. The sides last met in a friendly in November 2011, when Frank Lampard's goal gave England a 1-0 win at Wembley. Mark Pougatch presents.

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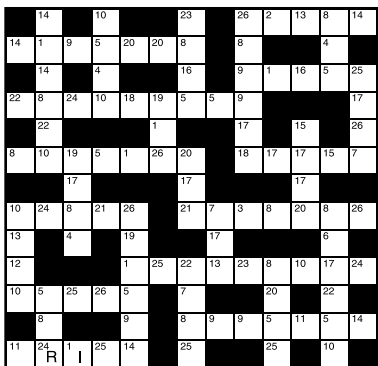
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



| | | |
|----|---|----|
| 1 | I | 14 |
| 2 | | 15 |
| 3 | | 16 |
| 4 | | 17 |
| 5 | | 18 |
| 6 | | 19 |
| 7 | | 20 |
| 8 | | 21 |
| 9 | | 22 |
| 10 | | 23 |
| 11 | | 24 |
| 12 | | 25 |
| 13 | | 26 |

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | B | U | R | Q | N | Z | E | F | L | P | A | W |
| X | J | T | H | S | Y | O | I | C | M | G | K | V |

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

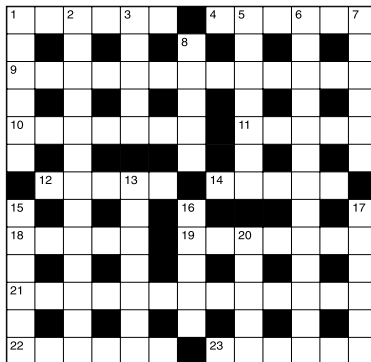
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Put a chess piece in pledge? (6)
- 100 with tender chest (6)
- Everything came free in vain (3,3,7)
- No position for a moderate (7)
- Happen to set dog on officer commanding (5)
- Meals of wood? (5)
- Girl gives small coin (5)
- Strength could be used here (5)
- Parcel I take to be a bad copy (7)
- Seeking a popular style in some sort of way (5,1,7)
- Have nothing to do with such rubbish (6)
- One who intends to be more niggardly? (6)

Down

- Positions about 50 steps this way (6)
- Esteemed source of water came to mind (4,7,2)
- Eat away like some active rodent (5)
- The opposite of go in as a result? (7)
- Not in a bad state as a reasonable proviso (4,9)
- About to drag up notice (6)
- Also two points in the mountains (5)
- Back answers used by scientists (7)
- I am to have a couple to spoil (6)
- Go off course one foot, being under the doctor (5)
- As waved by the prohibitionist? (6)
- A step in adhesive production (5)



Quick Clues:

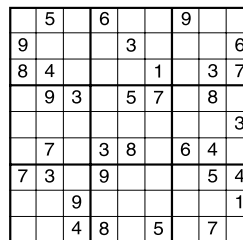
Across

- Iterate (6)
- Bog (6)
- Without delegates (13)
- Hung down (7)
- Form (5)
- Expiate (5)
- Worth (5)
- Go in (5)
- Labour (7)
- Imprisonment (13)
- Puts off (6)
- Niche (6)

Down

- Slices (6)
- In brackets (13)
- Horrify (5)
- Daunt (7)
- Dictatorial (13)
- Abrupt (6)
- Prepared (5)
- Depict (7)
- Following (6)
- Guide (5)
- Sides (6)
- Not asleep (5)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 2 |
| 9 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 5 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 8 |
| 7 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| 6 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 3 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 4 |
| 4 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 3 |

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Claimed; 7 Suite; 9 And; 10 Comparing; 12 Underhanded; 15 Respiration; 17 Quartered; 19 Mar; 21 Drone; 22 Medical. Down: 1 Plant; 2 Gin; 3 Peso; 4 Guarantor; 5 Stunned; 8 Upshot; 11 Inspiring; 13 Earned; 14 Require; 16 Malay; 18 Even; 20 Tin. QUICK - Across: 6 Onerous; 7 Smear; 9 Pop; 10 Sedentary; 12 Benediction; 15 Predecessor; 17 Destitute; 19 Pun; 21 Donor; 22 Deceive. Down: 1 Endow; 2 Try; 3 Sure; 4 Imitation; 5 Warrior; 8 Remiss; 11 Rendition; 13 Excite; 14 Freedom; 16 Suave; 18 Tier; 20 Sea.

Thinking space

Quiz

- Who succeeded Cecil Parkinson in 1983 as Conservative party chairman?
- What are Formentera, Ibiza, Minorca and Majorca collectively known as?
- What cargo was H.M.S. Bounty carrying when the mutiny occurred?
- In what year was NATO established?
- In which village did Jesus reputedly turn water into wine?
- In which year did Mao Tse-tung die?
- Which Italian P.M. was kidnapped by the Red Brigade in 1978?
- Who wrote The Life of Dr. Johnson?
- In which country is the Jutland peninsula?
- In which country, other than Malawi, is the kwacha a unit of currency?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 SF; 2 Watercress; 3 Polish

Symphony; 4 1965; 5 Rhine; 6 Fear of men;

7 Trombone; 8 Zambezi; 9 Diana Prince;

10 1910.

Niner: CREMATING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

478 gives something to wear,
3524 gives a second thing to wear,
93261 gives a third thing to wear.



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Traditional semi located in a convenient location



A **TRADITIONAL** semi-detached home with four bedrooms, 11 Brookfields Road, Oldbury, is situated opposite Langley Swimming Baths. In need of general improvement, it is for sale through Tom Giles at £199,950.

With a large private garden to the rear and being set back from the roadside, it has a long L-shaped driveway with parking for up to six vehicles, side lawn and borders, porch, reception hall with laminate flooring and an under-stairs cupboard, front sitting room with bay window, lounge/dining room, dining kitchen with L-shaped worktop, built-in oven, gas hob and extractor.

There is also a side verandah, lobby, downstairs WC, four bedrooms and a bathroom.

For further information contact Tom Giles on 0121 5526171 or visit www.tomgiles.net website.



Home described as ideal for first timers

IDEAL for first-time buyers, this three-bedroomed modern stylish property in Bradfield Way, Dudley, was built in 2012 and lies in a quiet cul-de-sac.

It is for sale through Swinscoes at £139,950.

The spacious and contemporary accommodation comprises of an entrance hall, downstairs WC, breakfast kitchen and lounge, three good-sized bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property has double glazing, gas central heating, block paved driveway parking for to cars and a rear garden. Contact Swinscoes on 01902 672274 or visit www.swinscoes.co.uk website.



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NEW

HALESOWEN, Summerfields Avenue£750 pcm+Fees
Ideally located in Hunt Green, close to popular school, motorway access and commutable to Birmingham, is this lovely semi-detached home, briefly comprising of: 2 large bedrooms and 1 single box room, large rear reception room, front reception room, modern fitted kitchen with white pools, family bathroom with shower, front and rear gardens, driveway parking and garage, unfurnished. Available mid November. EPC: E



NEW

HALESOWEN, Ashville Drive£700 pcm+Fees
An unfurnished detached house in a popular area, briefly comprising of: gas central heating, 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, downstairs wc, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, front & rear gardens, garage & driveway parking, within easy reach of Halesowen College & town centre. Available now. EPC: TBC



NEW

HALESOWEN, Overend Road£675 pcm+Fees
A modern 3 bedroom semi-detached house in a very convenient location comprising of: hall, large lounge, conservatory, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, family bathroom, rear garden, garage & driveway for 2 cars. EPC: D



NEW

BRIERLEY HILL, Hern Road£650 pcm+Fees
A detached bungalow in this quiet popular location having a large lounge/dining area, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, shower room, front & rear gardens, garage & large driveway to front, gas central heating, double glazing. Short term let only. Available Now. EPC: D



NEW

HALESOWEN, Blackberry Lane£650 pcm+Fees
A lovely 2 bedroom end terrace in this very popular location close to Halesowen Town Centre and ideal for the number 9 bus into Stourbridge and Birmingham. Featuring a lounge, fitted dining kitchen with appliances, refitted bathroom and shower, central heating & double glazing, private rear garden, available soon. EPC: TBC



NEW

QUARRY BANK, Hordern Crescent£625 pcm+Fees
Delightful 3 bedroom semi-detached house in this popular location comprising of: entrance porch, lounge with stairs off, fitted kitchen/dining area, 3 good size bedrooms, modern bathroom with shower, newly fitted gas central heating, front & rear gardens & driveway parking for 2 cars. EPC: TBC



HALESOWEN, Nimmonds Road£625 pcm+Fees
Large end terraced property close to Blackheath Town Centre & Rowley Regis Train Station. Lounge, fitted kitchen/dining area, 3 large bedrooms, bathroom with shower, central heating, double glazing, front & rear gardens with garage to rear of property and driveway parking for up to 3 cars. EPC: D



NEW

HALESOWEN, Albert Road £600 pcm+Fees
An immaculately presented detached house within minutes of Halesowen, in a well sought after location, comprising of: 3 bedrooms, large lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, utility room, downstairs WC, gas central heating, double glazing parking to the front, detached garage at rear, front and rear gardens, a property not to be missed. EPC: D



HALESOWEN, Century Way£595 pcm+Fees
Lovely fully furnished modern large ground floor apartment suitable for 2 sharers. Open plan lounge/fully fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, family bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing, allocated parking space. Available mid November. EPC: C



HALESOWEN, Margaret Avenue£575 pcm+Fees
This unfurnished mid terraced property is ideally located for local shops and bus links into Birmingham City Centre and Stourbridge. The property features lounge, modern fitted kitchen, downstairs w.c, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower over bath. Also benefits from double glazing, gas central heating, rear garden and driveway parking. EPC: C



HALESOWEN, Belgrave Road£550 pcm+Fees
Sited in this convenient location close to local amenities and good transport links, this terraced property briefly comprises of 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms and refitted bathroom. The property further benefits from having central heating, double glazing and pleasant rear garden. Available Now. EPC: D



CRADLEY HEATH, Clyde Street£495 pcm+Fees
Conveniently situated for local shops in Old Hill and the train station. Featuring 2 bedroom terraced house with 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, utility, downstairs bathroom with shower, 2 good size double bedrooms, carpeted cellar, rear garden with decking. Available soon. EPC: E



QUINTON, College Road £495 pcm+Fees
Large flat available above a shop close to direct bus links to Birmingham comprising of lounge, fitted kitchen with oven/hob, 2 large double bedrooms plus extra study/storage room, white bathroom with shower, electric heating. Available Now. EPC: G



QUINTON, Nailers Close £495 pcm+Fees
Set in a cul-de-sac in a sought after location. This 2 bedroom house features fitted breakfast kitchen with integrated oven/hob and freestanding fridge/freezer, lounge, 2 bedrooms with laminate flooring, bathroom with shower over bath, driveway parking and front and rear gardens. Also benefits from gas central heating and double glazing. EPC: D



HALESOWEN, Wright Street£495 pcm+Fees
Close to Halesowen Town Centre and Tenterfields Primary School. This end terraced house features gas central heating, cosy living room, dining room, fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, rear garden, on road parking. Available now. Short term let for 6 months, possibly longer. EPC: E



CRADLEY HEATH, Elbow Street£475 pcm+Fees
Situated in a quiet location, within walking distance to Old Hill town and local train station this unfurnished ground floor flat comprising electric storage heating, large living room, fitted kitchen, 1 double and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, communal gardens, allocated parking. EPC: C



HALESOWEN, Glynn Crescent£425 pcm+Fees
A 2nd floor apartment on this popular development, having double glazing and gas central heating, the property offers lounge, open plan fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms and bathroom with shower. The property also benefits from a long driveway and garage. EPC: D



OLDBURY, Causeway Green Road£425 pcm+Fees
This large, split level flat above shops, within walking distance to bus links and close to J2 of the M5, briefly comprising of: gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, parking to rear, unfurnished. EPC: E



HALESOWEN, Apperley Way£425 pcm+Fees
Available on a well sought after estate is this unfurnished 1st floor apartment which is well presented throughout, within walking distance to Cradley Heath train station, featuring a modern fitted kitchen, light and airy lounge, bathroom with shower, 1 double bedroom, communal drying area. EPC: C



HALESOWEN, Somers Road£375 pcm+Fees
A 1 bedroom 1st floor apartment offering generous accommodation including: lounge with open plan kitchen, double bedroom with en-suite shower room, double glazing, communal garden, on road parking, unfurnished. EPC: G



LYE, High Street £330 pcm+Fees
Located in the centre of Lye at Lye Cross. This 2nd floor flat above shops features a large lounge, kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, and is available immediately. EPC: TBC

PROPERTY

Traditional semi would be ideal for a family



THIS traditional semi-detached property in Glyn Farm Road, Quinton, is an ideal family home.

It is for sale through Robert Oulsnam at £165,000. The property is situated within easy reach of the M5 and the Hagley Road. Accommodation includes three bedrooms with built-in wardrobes, bay-fronted lounge with feature fireplace and sliding patio doors to rear garden, a lean-to providing storage and side access to the garden and a block-paved drive for two vehicles. There is a porch, entrance hall, kitchen and a bathroom. Contact Robert Oulsnam on 0121 4299986 or visit the website www.oulsnam.net



1920s home with patio and elevated views



A DISTINCTIVE 1920s detached house in a private drive with splendid elevated treetop views, 36 Moor Hall Lane, Stourport-on-Severn, is within easy reach of the town centre and the river.

It is for sale through Allan Morris at £310,000.

With double glazing and central heating it has a central reception hall, three bedrooms, a bathroom, spacious lounge, dining room, study, with with open plan conservatory dining area, WC and utility. The property has a double-length garage and parking space plus lawned front gardens. There are outbuildings, part of which has been converted into a summer house with power and patio terrace.

Contact Allan Morris on 01562 747755 or visit www.allan-morris.co.uk website.



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29
Halesowen Chronicle Thursday, November 5, 2015

Oldbury



Wolverhampton Road

An opportunity to acquire a fantastic spacious three bedroom semi-detached house with ground floor extension, good sized garden and rear garage with access from Parsons Hill. Enclosed porch, reception hall, cloak cupboard, downstairs wc, sitting room, living room, extended kitchen/breakfast room, dining area, utility, landing, three bedrooms, bathroom with shower cubicle, rear garage, rear garden, gas boiler heating radiators, double glazing to windows where specified. EPC=E

Offers in the region of £264,950

INTERNAL INSPECTION ESSENTIAL



Halesowen Hunnington



Bromsgrove Road

An impressive detached house which has been finished to a high specification comprising two reception rooms and kitchen breakfast room, four good sized bedrooms, two with en-suites, house bathroom and fantastic rear garden. The property benefits from solar power and rain water harvesting. Enclosed porch, reception hall, fitted cloakroom, store, sitting room, living room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility area, landing, master bedroom with en-suite, bedroom two with en-suite, two further bedrooms, house bathroom, garage, fantastic rear garden. EPC=C

Offers in the region of £435,000

NOW AVAILABLE TO VIEW



Halesowen



Flat 1 Mansion Court Long Lane

- * Ground Floor Flat
- * Re-fitted Kitchen
- * Living Room
- * Bathroom
- * Communal Parking

EPC=D

Offers in excess of £64,500



OPEN
TO
VIEW
SAT 7th NOV
11am-1pm

Oldbury

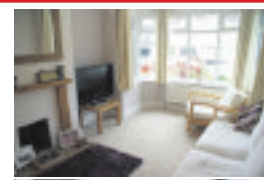


Chestnut Road

- * Semi-detached house
- * Living room and dining room
- * Re-fitted kitchen
- * Three bedrooms
- * Bathroom with separate wc
- * Extensive rear garden

EPC=F

Offers in the region of £199,950



Halesowen



Carters Lane

- * Detached house
- * Two reception rooms
- * Conservatory
- * Three bedrooms
- * Garage
- * Landscaped garden

EPC=D

Offers in the region of £289,950



Halesowen



Hamilton Avenue

- * Detached house
- * Three bedrooms
- * Two reception rooms
- * Gas central heating
- * Double glazing to windows as detailed
- * Garage and car port

EPC=D

Offers in the region of £235,000

Quinton



Worlds End Lane

- * Semi-detached house
- * Lounge and dining room
- * Utility and downstairs wc
- * Three bedrooms
- * Side garage
- * Lovely rear garden

EPC=D

Offers in the region of £187,500

Quinton



College Road

- * Terraced house
- * Much improved and modernised
- * Re-fitted kitchen/breakfast room
- * Three bedrooms
- * First floor re-fitted bathroom

EPC=C

Offers in the region of £139,950

Quinton



Bissell Street

- * End terraced house
- * Re-fitted kitchen
- * Three bedrooms
- * Re-fitted bathroom
- * Garage

EPC=C

Offers in the region of £164,950

Oldbury



Alexandra Court Pennycricket Lane

- * Ground floor purpose built flat
- * Two bedrooms, bathroom with shower over bath
- * Lounge with focal point fire
- * Fitted kitchen with oven hob and extractor
- * Allocated parking space
- * Communal gardens

EPC=D

Offers in the region of £75,000

Birmingham



Clent View Road

- * Mid terraced House
- * Conservatory
- * Three bedrooms
- * Re-fitted shower/wet room
- * Garage in block

EPC=C

Offers in the region of £130,000

Cradley Heath



Valley Road

- * Extended semi detached house
- * Through living room
- * Downstairs wc
- * Two bedrooms
- * Re-fitted bathroom
- * Conservatory

* Ideal for first time buyers EPC=D

Offers in the region of £129,950

Rowley Regis



Darby Street

- * Semi-detached bungalow
- * Kitchen/breakfast room
- * Living room
- * Dining room/potential second bedroom
- * Bedroom
- * Garage

EPC=D

Offers in the region of £139,950

Halesowen



Ladysmith Road

- * Mid terraced house, ideal first time purchase
- * Tastefully presented
- * Two reception rooms
- * Downstairs bathroom
- * Two bedrooms
- * Gas boiler heating radiators
- * Landscaped garden

EPC=D

Offers in the region of £105,000

Halesowen



Spiral Close

- * First floor flat
- * Double bedroom
- * Ideal first time buy
- * Lounge & dining area
- * Communal gardens
- * Off road parking

EPC=D

Offers in the region of £68,500

Halesowen



Corville Road

- * Extended semi-detached house
- * Through living room
- * Three bedrooms
- * Side garage
- * Cul-de-sac location

EPC=E

Offers in the region of £179,950

Rowley Regis



Darby Street

- * Semi-detached bungalow
- * Close to Blackheath town centre
- * Reception hall, lounge, kitchen
- * Bedroom, bedroom 2/dining room, bathroom
- * Pleasant gardens, off road parking, gas boiler radiators

EPC=D

Offers in the region of £125,000

Halesowen



Lyttleton House Blackberry Lane

- * Retirement flat
- * Two bedrooms
- * Shower room

EPC=C

Offers in the region of £109,950

Halesowen



Gower Road

- * Individual Architect Designed Detached House
- * In need of general modernisation & improvement
- * Fitted Cloakroom, Reception Hall
- * Living Room Forming Lounge & Dining Area
- * Breakfast Room, Kitchen & Store Room
- * 3 Bedrooms
- * Large Garaging
- * Extensive Gardens (Side building plot excluded)

EPC=E

Offers in the region of £250,000

Halesowen



Long Lane

- * Terraced house for owner occupiers only
- * In need of some general modernisation
- * Kitchen/breakfast room
- * Two bedrooms
- * Bathroom

EPC=D

Offers in the region of £79,950

Halesowen



Newbury Close

- * A Tastefully Presented Detached House
- * Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast room
- * Dining Room
- * Lounge Leading to Conservatory
- * Principal bedroom with en-suite
- * Three further bedrooms
- * House Bathroom
- * Landscaped Private Gardens
- * Garage

EPC=C

Offers in the region of £290,000

Halesowen



Gower Road

- * Spacious detached house
- * Three bedrooms
- * Lounge
- * Dining room
- * Breakfast kitchen & Re-fitted bathroom
- * Utility/WC
- * Delightful garden

EPC=E

Offers in the region of £259,950

Halesowen



Blakedown Road

- * Semi Detached
- * Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- * Re-fitted Kitchen and Re-fitted Bathroom with Shower Cubicle
- * Garage
- * Lovely Rear Garden

EPC=D

Offers in the region of £187,950

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KING CHARLES ROAD, HALESOWEN

EXTENDED home in SOUGHT AFTER location with NO UPWARD CHAIN. 2 reception rooms & EXTENDED fitted 14ft kitchen. 33ft garage/utility. 3 bedrooms & family bathroom with white suite. DRIVEWAY to front. LARGE timber summerhouse/office in rear garden. GCH fitted. EPC rating: E

QUINTON

£225,000

NEW



EDWARD ROAD, OLDBURY

EXTENDED detached family home with DOUBLE GARAGE to rear off Elsmar Rd. Having 28ft lounge diner, 12ft kitchen & D/S WC. Also 20ft family room & separate utility area. REFITTED shower room & 3 GOOD size bedrooms on 1st floor. DRIVEWAY to front. Lawn garden with private aspect. GCH & UPVC DG fitted. EPC rating: D

QUINTON

£220,000

NEW



WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, OLDBURY

NO UPWARD CHAIN - Link detached family home with 22 ft lounge diner & nearly 11ft breakfast kitchen. 3 GOOD SIZE bedrooms & bathroom with white suite. 30ft GARAGE & driveway. Lawn rear garden. GCH & UPVC DG fitted. EPC rating: TBC

QUINTON

£199,950

NEW PRICE



BERRY CLOSE, SMETHWICK

Well presented, spacious, MODERN, family home, upon this popular development, with gas radiator heating, double glazing, having Entrance hall (downstairs wc off), DELIGHTFUL LOUNGE, dining room, fitted kitchen, 3 BEDS, bathroom, GARAGE, pleasant rear garden. EPC C.

BEARWOOD

£169,950

NEW PRICE



WOLVERHAMPTON RD, OLDBURY

NO UPWARD CHAIN - Excellent property opportunity to EXTEND & MODERNISE. Having 2 reception rooms with 9ft kitchen to rear. 28ft TANDEM garage - potential to convert. 3 bedrooms & bathroom on 1st floor. Parking to front. Lawn garden to rear. Part DG & part GCH. EPC rating: F

QUINTON

£159,950

NEW



BRISTNALL HALL ROAD, OLDBURY

SPACIOUS, Well presented, THOUGHTFULLY IMPROVED, DOUBLE FRONTED, intermediate family home, convenient position, having GCH & DG, with SPACIOUS THROUGH LOUNGE, dining/sitting room, re-fitted kitchen, 3 GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS, 2 bathrooms, off road parking, Pleasant garden. MUST BE VIEWED. EPC TBC.

BEARWOOD

£157,950

NEW



BLEAKHOUSE ROAD, OLDBURY

Deceptively spacious, semi detached property in popular location, WITH DELIGHTFUL GOOD SIZED REAR GARDEN, gas radiator heating, double glazing, having attractive lounge, dining/sitting room, kitchen, 3 BEDROOMS, shower/wet room, and DRIVE providing off road parking. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC tbc.

QUINTON

£134,950

NEW



WARSTON AVENUE, BARTLEY GRN

LARGE terraced home with DRIVEWAY to front in CUL-DE-SAC location. REFITTED 14ft breakfast kitchen, 15ft lounge diner & D/S WC. 4 bedrooms on 1st floor with REFITTED shower room with white suite. UPVC DG fitted & GCH to ground floor only. EPC rating: C

QUINTON

£124,950

NEW



BERTRAM ROAD, SMETHWICK

Deceptively spacious intermediate terraced property, CONVENIENT FOR LOCAL SHOPPING FACILITIES, having gas radiator heating, double glazing, with 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 3 bedrooms, rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC D.

BEARWOOD

£114,950

NEW PRICE



OVERDALE ROAD, QUINTON

Deceptively spacious, End terraced property, occupying a pleasant position within this convenient neighbourhood, requires inspection, with gas radiator heating, double glazing, SPACIOUS LOUNGE, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, conservatory, 3 Good sized bedrooms, EXTREMELY LARGE REAR GARDEN. EPC E

BEARWOOD

£105,000

NEW PRICE



CHESHIRE ROAD, SMETHWICK

Deceptively spacious, mid terrace, conveniently situated, with gas radiator heating, double glazing, having Entrance hall, lounge, dining/sitting room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 3 BEDROOMS, additional wc (off landing), rear garden. EPC D

BEARWOOD

£99,950

NEW PRICE



FENTON STREET, SMETHWICK

Deceptively spacious mid terrace, convenient for local shopping facilities, with NO UPWARD CHAIN, having 2 reception rooms, kitchen, 2 DOUBLE BEDROOMS, bathroom, rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC F.

BEARWOOD

£95,000

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2

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lent condition, cost £1,149, bargain
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caravans / motorhomes

RENAULT TRAFFIC 1.9 D, Camper
Van, Mot., cooker, fridge, rock & roll
bed, good condition, drive away
aw-nig, £4,100 one 07443 451650

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CARAVAN WANTED
Cash on pick up asap. caravan
wanted, call me on
07717 090817

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must be dry and in very good condi-
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1 Family

gift ideas

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with strap, cost £110, sell £50 ono.
Mulberry s/m leather gloves, cost
£250, sell £150. 07956 007587.

elderly & disabled

MOBILITY SCOOTERS from £350
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tioned lifts from £799. New avail-
able. 01952 405397/07897 273617

3 Home & Services

antiques

ROYAL ALBERT Old Country
Roses, English 1962, complete
dinner, tea, coffee, sets, + more
items. 01902 798648, All perfect.

furniture

ELECTRIC ARMCHAIR, lifts you up
and down, with brochure, cost £2700
sell £80. 07950 418286.

LEATHER THREE PIECE Suite,
cream, excellent condition £430.
01902 834834.

LUXURY CANE
conservatory suite, unused,
2015 design, 2 seater, 2 arm-
chairs, excellent quality chenille
cushions, still wrapped, can
deliver, cost £1495
Accept £495.
07968 731896.

household appliances

HOSTESS TROLLEY with 4 dishes,
pull down lid to keep plates hot £30
quick sale. Table top fridge, little ice
box £35. 07950 418286.

t.v. / home entertainment

service

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their responsibility to inform the
publishers of any mistakes or inac-
curacies on the first day of publica-
tion.

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hotmail.com

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guns, taxidermy, big bore guns,
traps etc wanted. 07958 624202

READERS ARE ADVISED to care-
fully consider all of their options
before agreeing to the sale of any of
their items.

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4 Pets & Animals

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Passport information.

PRIVATE STABLE yard wanted

urgently or large cow shed with

some turnout. 07779 916177.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Advertisers must ensure that

they meet all necessary legal

requirements for owning and

using guns.

pets corner

BEAUTIFUL KITTENS x4, male and

female, different colours. £40 each

to ensure good homes. 01902

218944

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07946 625275.

FEMALE TABBY CAT, needs kind

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FEMALE TABBY Cat, needs kind

loving home, £10. 01902 473115

evenings.

GERMAN SHEPHERD Pups. KC

reg. Big boned, 8 wks old. Wormed,

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07436 002565.

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Please be aware that when

purchasing a puppy there are

some simple guidelines you can

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purchasing from a Puppy

Farmer.

1. Try to ensure you visit the

puppy whilst it is still with it's

Mother.

2. Do not arrange to collect a

puppy from any other location

than that of the breeder.

3. Ensure that you are given any

KC documentation, if pedigree.

Whilst Midland News

Association publications take

great care to avoid publication

of advertisements from Puppy

Farmers we cannot accept any

liability should readers

purchase from this kind of

establishment.

vets

Express & Star

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BUSINESS

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great response
from Classified
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experienced Sales
Advisors on
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5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to

take appropriate professional

advice before entering any obli-

gations.

6 Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an

offence under the Accommodation

Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency

to charge a fee simply for the regis-

tration of your requirements and/or

supplying particulars of premises to

let.

SMART ROOMS in shared house.

Netherton, from £85 pw inc bills. No

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and 2 bed, CH and DG. For more

information call 07507 259621

overseas property

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Wolverhampton Call 01902 489901

www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

7 Jobs

cleaners

employment wanted

MAN 55 EXPERIENCED CASE MAKER / PACKER, full driving licence, any job considered. 07754 121452.

RETIRED TIME SERVED CARPENTER / JOINER Requires casual / part time Work. Own van / tools. 01384 375672 / 07527 360303.

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

BMW 320D M Sport, blue, 58 reg. 145,000 miles, good condition, £5,500 ono. 07836 569003.

BMW Z3 2001 Silver, only 22,000 miles from new, service history, excellent condition. Mot Sept 2016, £4,850. 01902 758833.

FORD FIESTA, 07, full MoT, excellent condition inside and out, £1,595. 07468 925114.

FORD FIESTA Zetec, 58, 15,000 miles, 12 months MoT, Magenta colour, lady owner, superb condition, £4,750 ono. 01902 769739

HONDA JAZZ SE 1400cc, 02, 52 reg, 5-dr, AC, sunroof, EW, MoT October 2016, Honda history, 28,000 miles. £2,050 No offers. 07788 990608. Kidderminster.

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We have a package to suit every budget. Packages start from as little as **£21.00 for 6 nights** Plus 6 nights free if you do not sell.

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HYUNDAI COUPE 2.0 SE Auto, 2004, 28,000 miles, superb car to drive, excellent condition. £2,500. 01902 741598.

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PEUGEOT 407SW 2.0 DIESEL 2006, 59,000 miles, silver, ABS, EW, airbag, EM, AC, panoramic sunroof, long MoT. £3,000 ono. 07734 743005.

RENAULT CLIO 2003, 47k miles, metallic silver, 10 month mot, electric windows, Air con, Taxed, one owner. £1,700 ono 07896 346626

TOYOTA AYGO 1000CC Grey, 2 keepers, 56 plate, 70k, £220 road tax, ideal 1st car. £2,450 ono. 07760 887220.

VAUXHALL CORSA SXI, 2013, 1.4, automatic, 3,000 miles, metallic silver, silver, EW, AC, £8,950. Please call 01902 895145.

VW GOLF 1.6 FSI, 2008, black, full MoT, 58,000 miles, genuine reason for sale, £3,250. 07956 508555.

cars under £1500

CITROEN C4 1.6 VTR Coupe, 2006, 9 months MoT, 89k miles, 4 brand new tyres, silver, good condition, £900 o.n.o. 07844 856660.

FIAT PUNTO 1.2, 2002, 60,000 miles, blue, new battery, MoT Aug 2016, fsh, 5 door, excellent condition. £795 ono. 07434 144144.

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

FIAT PUNTO, 51 Reg., long MoT, very good condition, £500 o.n.o. 07759 737894.

FORD FIESTA 1.2, low mileage, 57,000, 12 months MoT, good runner, £500. 07507 211472.

FORD FIESTA FUN, 2001, petrol, 1299cc, 81,000 miles, full MoT, £300 ono. 07432 403911 or 01902 833126.

FORD FIESTA V reg., Zetec, 3-dr, petrol, silver, MoT September 2016, reasonable condition. £450. 01902 744291.

FORD KA 1.3, 2005, 31,000 miles, blue, two owners, 6 months MoT. FSH. £950. 07443 567011.

FORD KA, 2003, 34,000 miles, 1.3 Petrol, blue, MoT, CD, Great for first car. Excellent condition for age. £995 o.n.o. 01785 712747.

GALAXY GHIA DIESEL AUTO Blue, 2004 £1,495. Also **MONDEO GHIA X** Diesel, silver, 2006, manual. £1,175 Both excellent. Illness forces sale. Must sell. 07973 823945.

JAGUAR S-TYPE 3.0 V6 SE, 51 reg, 8 months MoT, fsh, good looking motor. £1,000 no offers. 01902 785453 (W Hampton).

MAZDA 323 IMOLA, 1997, 98,000 miles, silver, e/w, air bags, e/m, sunroof, aircon, 5 months MoT, fsh. £395 ono. 07827 873439.

MERCEDES CLK 200 S reg, 1998, MoT March 16, AMG wheels, SH, Haynes manual, good condition. £375 ono. 07933 701245.

NISSAN ALMERA silver, 53 plate, full MoT, 79,000 miles, £500. 07804 349779.

PEUGEOT 206 estate, 1.4 SW, 02 reg, 11 months MoT, clean car, needs slight attention, £400 ono. 07752 698204.

RENAULT CLIO 1.2, 2004, Metallic Blue Three door. Black. Wrapped roof. Speaker system, MoT May 16. Good First car. 07944 182556.

PEUGEOT 206CC 03 reg, MoT till March 2016, silver, 83,000 miles, good condition, £600 ono. 07543 905312 or 07401 876512.

PEUGEOT 307 diesel, 52 reg, 6 months MoT, £450 ono. 01902 750388.

ROVER MG 1.8 ZS +, saloon, blue, low miles, 12 months MoT, rust free example, £950. May part ex. 01902 530123 or 07747 740971.

SKODA FABIA 1.4, silver, 5dr, MoT Feb 2016, good runner, good condition, £550 ono. 07411 733865.

VAUXHALL AGILA 1.2i, 2002, MoT till July 2016, good running order, £400 ono. 07367 040324.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2, 1997, 12 months MoT, bargain £425 ono. 07799 292493.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2, 2005, 5 door, black, full MoT £1,295 ono. Telephone 01902 829438.

VAUXHALL CORSA EXPRESSION 998cc, 3 door, 56 reg, blue, only 57k, sh, MoT, stunning condition, only £1,495. 07984 141652.

VAUXHALL CORSA SXi, 16v, 3-dr, metallic blue, 84,000 miles, full MoT, any inspection, excellent condition, £895 ono. 07543 919296.

classic cars

MG GT 1978 Fire to Interior, Body Sound, Good engine. Bargain £800. 01902 630728.

MG MIDGET 1500 long MoT, full history, low miles. De-bumpered, 1979, just resprayed yellow, 2 seater soft top. £2,000 no offers. 01384 74272.

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scrap vehicles

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MCB TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS Tel: 01902 408176 1000's of parts available at all times MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

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vehicles wanted

alan reed cars Used cars wanted for cash Top prices paid. HP settled. Buyer could call. 01562 711083 / 07831 245313

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, 01902 597035.

WANTED PEUGEOT Expert Van, clean and reliable, cash waiting, private buyer. 01902 828908.

spares & accessories

accessories & services

LOAD LINER and Roll over bars for Mitsubishi pick up truck, almost new, £300. No offers. Call 01902 785453.

mobile mechanics

MOBILE MECHANICS Service & repairs. Headgasket, clutches and cambelts. 07747 848469.

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on 01902 713146 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

10 Personals

personal

AFFECTIONATE LADY no strings for Text me Directly 01902 787878

ATTRACTIVE FEMALE REP Seeking local man for friendship/part. Tel: 01902 489 181

LONELY DIVORCED breadwinning woman needs friendship for 07817041889

Please free text messages from people seeking adult sex for 02002032959 (or any number above) opened Tel: 02003036423 other premium rate services may be provided via one call cost £1.00 per min plus your phone companies access charge service provided 18+ PSC PO Box 824 Halesowen

AT MANYANA Gentlemen's Club, 5* customer rated Mon-Fri 10-3pm. Sat-Sun: 10-11pm. 0121 472 7281.

DIVORCED WEALTHY GENT Wants to spoil a lady aged 45-55, hoping for a long term relationship. Box Number P20112, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GENUINE MAN 52 Attractive, slim, caring, GSOH, solvent, car owner, WLTW lady 40 to 58 for evenings/days out and friendship. Don't be shy, please reply and claim a free hug. Box Number P20114, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

SINCERE LOVING HONEST Easy going male, 60's, would like to meet female similar for friendship or relationship. Box Number P20109, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL 01902 317878

Classified Ads





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Place your advert call:
0844 381 5936

and follow the simple instructions

To Place your ad
by text

Simply text **REG** followed by
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area and your advert (max 155
characters) and send to **80098**
FREE Standard Network rates apply.

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from your landline call:

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calls cost £1.55 per min plus your
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Have the adverts 6-digit box no
written down and do **key-it-in**
promptly when asked. Don't forget
to leave contact details for replies.

Try it...
You'll
love it!

YOUR regional dating service, run by the
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since 1990. **REAL people in YOUR region**

Date **ONLINE**

YOU can now
date online or
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THE biggest UK on-line database of 17 million UK REAL users waiting to meet you.. **visit..** **http://dating.expressandstar.com**

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REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per
minute plus your phone company's ac-
cess charge. Texts cost £1.50 per mes-
sage received.

FEMALE seeks fun loving male who likes a
drink and a curry, to enjoy erotic experiences
with a curry brunette. Discretion guaranteed.
Text only to Mailbox no: 5079311

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette
seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent
40+ Must be discreet, married or single.
ACA. Tel: 0906 515 4294 Box 419673

MARY, pretty, friendly, lots of fun, lives in
Kidderminster, loves the theatre, opera,
ballet. WLTm a lovely, charming, funny,
genuine guy, 30s, to settle down with. Tel No:
0906 500 3955 Box No: 419883

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for
no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs.
Pls call, ACA. Tel: 0906 515 4299 Box
418167

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking
male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No:
0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287

CHRISTINA, curvy beauty, 27yrs, own home,
very very adventurous seeks no strings fun
and frolics. Tel No: 0906 515 4293 Box
410127

LOU, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, WLTm a lady
between 42-49 with blue eyes, must be kind,
caring and funny to meet my broken heart,
someone who likes to curl up on the sofa for
cozy nights in. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box
No: 419855

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs
seeks daytime fun at her home. ACA. Tel:
0906 515 4275 Box: 405297

FREYA 24yr old single mum, looking for male
for free time frolics, call me if you're
interested, it could be fun! Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 419851

ATTRACTIVE solvent business woman,
36yrs, seeks discreet gent 25+ for no strings
discreet fun. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 4693 Box
419701

LISA 38 slim attractive blonde, looking for a
man who will appreciate a feminine,
fashionable, fun, romantic sensual woman
with a mind of her own. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 419839

LOUISE, pretty hairdresser, works long
hours, finds it hard to get a boyfriend, 34yrs,
own flat. Text only to Mailbox no: 419272

SARAH 36, slim, nice looking, sensual,
tactile, no ties, WLTm kind, loving male to
enjoy affectionate relationship. Any
age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
419821

JENNI, single mum seeks single dad, own
home, can accommodate and loves spoiling
her man. Text only to Mailbox no: 4115108

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights
out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and
more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
419277

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere,
N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks
West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box
No: 414773

JULIA 47, looking for genuine, reasonably
attractive male friend, may lead to more.
Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419695

LADY Penelope seeks her very own Parker
(47-58) to go on a voyage of discovery and
romance. Text only to Mailbox no: 4550237

BLACK lady seeks white male over 60, any
location, for friendship and hopefully a long
more. Text only to Mailbox no: 4256384

CHARLENE, 24, petite curvy young blonde
seeks similar cheeky, fun loving guy for lots
of fun and loving. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 419597

JOANNA, 36, petite, au naturel haired female,
lovely figure seeks loving older male for fun
nights out and cosy nights in. Maybe more.
Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419595

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long hair,
brown eyes, generous curves, would love to
spend cosy nights in with that special male.
Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 417955

SHARON 32, attractive black single mum of
one, very tactile and passionate, WLTm male
45-65yrs for fun meets. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 419579

MARIE, 43, fun blue-eyed brunette, fit and
active, seeks similar male to have a laugh
with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
419417

KAREN 50, widow, likes swimming, horse
riding, keep fit, clay pigeon shooting, GSOH,
N/S, non drinker, seeks male. Tel No: 0906
500 3955 Box No: 415211

CURVY, farm girl at heart, 32, 5ft 10, single
mum, caring, kind, shy, likes walks, cooking
WLTm tactile male farmer for LTR. Text only
to Mailbox no: 5067001

FEMALE medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins,
seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and
understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box
No: 415429

WIDOW 50, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5ins,
slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955
Box No: 415767

MARIE, 43, fun blue-eyed brunette, fit and
active, seeks similar male to have a laugh
with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
419417

FEMALE 50's, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue
eyes, slim, seeks gent with GSOH, loving,
caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 415871

BLUE eyed female, blonde hair, slim, GSOH,
loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar
male, 55-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box
No: 416989

AMANDA, 36, tall, slim, busty brunette seeks
man, any age, any area, for discreet daytime
fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418117

LINDA, 47, brown-eyed blonde, caring,
loving and honest, many interests, seeks
genuinely loving male. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 417211

JOYCE, affectionate sensitive widow, bit of a
romantic, seeks loving male for lots of TLC.
Looks unimportant, it's what's in the heart that
matters. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
419143

DEBBIE, 29, looking for mature professional
fun guy, 40-50 to spend good times with. Call
me, you have nothing to lose. Tel No: 0906
500 3955 Box No: 419075

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per
minute plus your phone company's ac-
cess charge. Texts cost £1.50 per mes-
sage received.

JULES, sensitive tactile, curvy brunette,
hopeless romantic, seeks tall, loving male for
fun, friendship and possible LTR. Tel No:
0906 500 3955 Box No: 419033

VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall
slim and attractive, looking for fun times,
maybe more. Can accommodate/travel. Tel
No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418845

HEATHER, well travelled solvent brunette
looking to share a large glass of wine and
whatever follows with affectionate man friend.
Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419031

PAULINE, 49yrs, very attractive, curvy
divorcee, affectionate and fun, seeks laid
back, sincere male for an uncomplicated,
loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955
Box No: 418925

LADY young at heart, nice eyes, seeks man
42-52 with good sense of humour. Text only
to Mailbox No: 4881572

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CAROL Ann, sensitive slim brunette very
romantic seeks tall handsome male for fun,
friendship and lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 419385

KIRSTEN, 36, attractive, blonde and very
bored, seeking open-minded decent male for
fun/friendship, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 419383

VAL 41, pretty, cuddly, flirt, seeks similar fun
loving male for an uncomplicated no strings
relationship. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No:
0906 500 3955 Box No: 416601

SUNNAHAN, 48, curvy female, romantic,
warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind man for
a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and
kisses. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 417341

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills
and discreet meets, give me a call, you won't
be disappointed. Any age with own
accommodation. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box
No: 409109

DIVORCED female, attractive, sensual by
nature, OHAC, bored with own company,
looking to make life a little more exciting with
like minded man. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box
No: 419219

JAN 35yr old blue eyed blonde, outgoing,
friendly, WLTm passionate guy to share good
wine, good conversation, flirting and fun
times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
418609

SENSUAL tactile, attractive female, long
blonde hair, blue eyes, loves travel,
winning/dining, WLTm genuine male for
mutual companionship. Looks unimportant.
Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418587

TRACY, slim attractive cheerful brunette,
enjoys aromatherapy/massage, looking for
male who appreciates a feminine, sensual
lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
417787

VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall
slim and attractive, looking for fun times,
maybe more. Can accommodate/travel. Tel
No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418845

LOOKING for the right chemistry with country
loving gent who like me is looking for some
extra fun in their life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955
Box No: 418843

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum
young looking, slim, attractive, WLTm similar
male for companionship. Age/looks/Status
unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
418795

SOPHIA very sensual black lady looking to
acquire a new distraction with lots of adult fun
thrown in for good measure. Race/age/status
unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
413399

JAN 35yr old blue eyed blonde, outgoing,
friendly, WLTm passionate guy to share good
wine, good conversation, flirting and fun
times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
418609

ATTRACTIVE professional lady, widow, 50's
likes walks, sight seeing, theatre, meals out
seeks genuine, professional gent, 5ft 9ins
plus to make life more enjoyable. Tel No:
0906 500 3955 Box No: 418615

TRACY, slim attractive cheerful brunette,
enjoys aromatherapy/massage, looking for
male who appreciates a feminine, sensual
lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
417787

THEA, 36, extrovert brunette, curly hair,
nifty fan, WLTm genuine male who will
accept her as she is. Tel No: 0906 500 3955
Box No: 417763

KAY, very young 45, fit and active, no ties,
seeks similar young at heart, fun male for fun
meets. Age/status/looks unimportant. Tel No:
0906 500 3955 Box No: 418577

VIVACIOUS strawberry blonde who knows
male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No:
0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287

ELLEN 45, attractive, with statuesque curvy
figure, looking for an uncomplicated
relationship with understanding male friend.
Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
417663

MICHELLE, 37, pretty, very fit, well travelled
seeks active, broadminded male to share
new experiences and adventures with. ACA.
Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417651

SANDY, mature, very young looking widow
seeks fit young man to enjoy fun, cuddles and
kisses. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box
No: 417581

ATTRACTIVE lady, young looking, single
would love to meet uniformed officer. Must be
sincere and genuine. Text only to Mailbox
No: 4727985

SANDY, mature, very young looking widow
seeks fit young man to enjoy fun, cuddles and
kisses. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box
No: 417581

GINA, attractive slim blue eyed blonde, loves
to cook, looking for her soul mate seeks tall
male for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955
Box No: 417419

ZARA 5ft 4ins, slim, single mum, honest,
caring, likes walks, seeking genuine male,
45-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No:
0906 500 3955 Box No: 417513

CARING lovely curvy female 41 seeks
sincere and caring guy. Text only to
Mailbox No: 4721092

GINA, attractive slim blue eyed blonde, loves
to cook, looking for her soul mate seeks tall
male for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955
Box No: 417419

Men seeking women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per
minute plus your phone company's ac-
cess charge. Texts cost £1.50 per mes-
sage received.

WAYNE, 40, cheeky, good career, likes gym.
Looking for a lady who likes stimulating
conversation and fun. Tel No: 0906 515
4345 Box No: 419829

MICHAEL, school teacher, very shy and
lonely, 42yrs, own home, car, seeks genuine
caring lady. Text only to Mailbox no:
415651

ATTRACTIVE, fit, sporty, tactile, youthful
black male seeks relationship with lady. N/S.
Text only to Mailbox no: 4851641

WIDOWER, quiet, easygoing, slim, 5ft 7 tall,
smart, varied interests, seeks slimish lady, 50
or more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
419263

SUBMISSIVE 44 year old WLTm dominant
female 25-30 years who enjoys role play with
friendship and maybe possible relationship.
Text only to Mailbox no: 5084114

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied
interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45,
who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for
friendship or possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 419263

MARK 40, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes,
attractive, good looking, OHAC/business man
likes walks, day trips, cinema, seeks similar
female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
348239

TIM, easygoing honest male, discreet,
uninhibited, seeks similar non-conformist
averagely attractive, N/S female up to 65.
Notts. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
4215562

PROFESSIONAL male, 41, own business,
likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym
seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955
Box No: 360283

MALE 45yrs old, self-employed motor
trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes,
average looks. I am a nice genuine and
honest person looking for similar lady to
share a honest permanent relationship and
happy times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box
No: 418709

GENT 55, slightly mad, but not bad, will make
you glad you answered his ad! Tel No: 0906
500 3955 Box No: 408973

LEE, 50, seeking an Asian female for discreet
fun and maybe more. Dudley area. Tel No:
0906 500 3955 Box No: 419401

MIKE late 60's fit, active, genuine and
generous, very passive seeks assertive lady
any age/looks for mutual benefits. Text only
to Mailbox no: 474781

STOCKY, bold, unhappily married man,
seeks similar very discreet female for exciting
rendezvous. Text only to Mailbox no:
4757315

ATTRACTIVE tall black male would like to
meet female for day time fun and discreet
meetings, any age or location. Text only to
Mailbox no: 5077442

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied
interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45,
who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for
friendship or possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500
3955 Box No: 419283

GENTLEMAN, 57, slightly mad but not bad,
who will make you ever so glad that you
answered his ad! Tel No: 0906 500 3955
Box No: 419307

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per
minute plus your phone company's ac-
cess charge. Texts cost £1.50 per mes-
sage received.

ADVENTUROUS 35yr old, slim, dark hair,
likes music, cycling and photography, seeks
female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No:
0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235

JAMES GSOH, likes theatre, meals out,
socialising, seeking easy going female, 35-
55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
417469

PETE 47, enjoys walking, meals out, seeks
female, age/looks/status unimportant, with
similar interests for adult fun text only. Text
only to Mailbox no: 5063152

MALE 60s WLTm genuine fun lady, 50/60s
nights in or out, likes swimming, walks,
music, good food etc for friendship or more.
Text only to Mailbox no: 4852727

TIM, easygoing honest male, discreet,
uninhibited, seeks similar non-conformist
averagely attractive, N/S female up to 65.
Notts. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:
375065

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Looking for a lady who likes stimulating
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female for friendship, maybe

MiTo and Giulietta uprated

By James Parker

The Alfa Romeo MiTo and Alfa Romeo Giulietta ranges have both been enhanced by new trim levels. A new Collezione specification is available in both the Alfa Romeo MiTo and Giulietta models, while a new Sprint Speciale version joins the Alfa Romeo Giulietta range.

The Collezione versions are the new luxury flagships of their respective ranges, offering a more luxurious and elegant specification than the sporty QV Line models. In the case of the Alfa Romeo MiTo Collezione, standard equipment includes 17-inch 'Collezione Bronze' alloy wheels with matching bronze-effect door mirrors and satin-effect headlight and tail light surrounds.

The interior is trimmed in special Collezione cloth and eco-leather upholstery, with brown stitching on the flat-bottom steering wheel, gear knob and handbrake gaiter. A split-folding, three-seat rear bench, sports dials, special Collezione vintage floor mats and a Uconnect™ NAV infotainment system with TomTom satellite navigation and DAB radio round out the extremely high specification.

Offered with a choice of a 0.9-litre TwinAir Turbo 105hp or 1.4-litre Turbo Petrol 140hp engines (the latter with Alfa Romeo's six-speed ALFA TCT twin-clutch transmission

and uprated Brembo brakes as standard) the Alfa Romeo MiTo Collezione is priced at £17,660 on-the-road and £19,210 on-the-road respectively.

The Alfa Romeo Giulietta Collezione builds on high specification of the Exclusive trim level but stands out even further from the crowd thanks to its signature gloss-black painted roof with matching door mirrors, front and rear parking sensors and unique, dark-finish, 18-inch multi-spoke alloy wheels.

Leather

Inside, the seats are trimmed in bespoke 'Collezione' leather with heating on the front seats and the luxurious ambience is complemented by a 6.5-inch Uconnect™ NAV system with advanced voice operated satellite navigation with 3D mapping and DAB digital radio as standard.

Prices for the Alfa Romeo Giulietta Collezione start at £24,820 for the 1.4 MultiAir Turbo Petrol 170hp six-speed manual, or £26,245 with the six-speed Alfa TCT twin-clutch transmission.

The diesel Alfa Romeo Giulietta Collezione range starts at £25,680 for the 2.0 JTDM-2 150hp manual, with the 2.0 JTDM-2 175hp ALFA TCT version completing the new Collezione range at £27,840.

Amid all this luxury, Alfa Romeo hasn't forgotten its cuore sportivo, however: A new Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprint Speciale also joins the range, building on the specification of the Sprint model to offer ever more performance-oriented equipment. The Sprint Speciale adds sports suspension, 17-inch sports alloy wheels, Brembo brakes, aluminium pedals and Quadrifoglio-style sports seats as standard, along with dual-zone climate



.....
‘Collezione versions are the new luxury flagships.’
.....

control, rear parking sensors, special silver dashboard trim, the 'Visibility Pack' and cruise control.

The Sprint Speciale engine range includes the 1.4 TB MultiAir 150hp, priced from £23,320 with a six-speed manual or £24,745 with the six-speed ALFA TCT

(including steering-wheel mounted paddle-shifters).

The Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprint Speciale powered by the 2.0 JTDM-2 150hp is priced from £24,180 while the 2.0 JTDM-2 175hp ALFA TCT version is priced from £26,340 on-the-road.

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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki Vitara range mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km): Urban 42.1-61.4 (6.7-4.6), Extra Urban 55.4-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 49.5-70.6 (5.7-4.0), CO₂ emissions 131-106 g/km and for the Suzuki Celerio range mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km): Urban 55.3-68.9 (5.3-4.1), Extra Urban 76.3-83.0 (3.7-3.4), Combined 65.7-78.4 (4.3-3.6), CO₂ emissions 99-84 g/km and for the Suzuki Swift range mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km): Urban 41.5-57.6 (6.8-4.9), Extra Urban 57.6-72.4 (4.9-3.9), Combined 50.4-65.7 (5.6-4.3), CO₂ emissions 128-99 g/km.

The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st October 2015 to 31st December 2015 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. Model(s) shown: *Celerio 1.0 S24 available at £8,999 on the road (Metallic paint available at £415), Celerio range - Celerio 1.0 S22 Petrol Manual available at £6,999 to Celerio 1.0 S24 Petrol AGS available at £9,799 AND *Swift 1.2 5dr S24 available at £12,199 on the road (Metallic paint available at £430), Swift range - Swift 1.2 S22 3dr Petrol Manual available at £8,999 to Swift 1.2 S24 5dr Petrol Dualjet available at £12,699, *Vitara 1.6 S25 2WD Manual with Urban Pack available at £15,169 on the road. (Single-tone metallic paint available at £415, dual-tone paint is available at £800.) Vitara 1.6 S24 Petrol manual available at £13,999 to Vitara 1.6 DDIS S25 ALLGRIP Manual with Rugged Pack available at £22,549.

Half a century of Honda in UK

By Sharon Walters

It was the year the Beatles performed the first stadium concert in the history of music, while cartoon heroes Tom and Jerry and the puppet-tastic Thunderbirds first aired on TV. Cigarette advertising was banned on British TV, the Sound of Music premiered and Churchill was buried. On top of that DJ Jazzy Jeff, Alan Cumming, Brooke Shields and Honda's very own Karen Parry were born.

1965 also saw the year Honda first started trading in the UK. It also saw the first Grand Prix win for Honda in the legendary RA272, thanks to Ritchie Ginther at the Mexico Grand Prix.

In the last five decades, Honda has achieved milestone after milestone. Now one of the top 20 biggest brands in the world, Honda employs over 182,000 employees worldwide and has 40 manufacturing facilities making everything from a 25cc leaf blower to a \$4m business jet.

Last year, global sales hit 27.3million units, made up of 17 million motorcycles, six million power products and 4.3million cars. The European arm employs 8,000 people and last year sold almost 1.4million products.

This year also sees 30 years of Honda of the UK Manufacturing (HUM). A 370 acre site in Swindon employing 3,200 people, HUM has benefitted from a self-funded total investment of £2.2bn over the years and will become the global production hub for the five door Civic.

The motorcycles division is number one in the UK market with almost 20 per cent market share. With a product range spanning 65 models, last year, Honda sold 19,000 bikes in the UK. The power products range has



‘1965 also saw the year Honda first started trading in the UK. It also saw the first Grand Prix win for Honda.’

225 models and last year sold in excess of 50,000 units.

Honda is the number one ATV manufacturer in the UK and the third largest off-board manufacturer.

From a motorsport perspective in the UK, we have the most successful BSB team in the UK and the BTCC team just won the drivers and manufacturers championships for 2015.

Philip Crossman, managing director at Honda UK, commented: "This year marks our golden anniversary in the UK with fifty years of rich history in trading bikes,

power products and cars. While this year has been significant in refreshing the car range in its entirety and launching several important new bikes, the Japanese way is to take a much longer viewpoint than just 12 months.

"Our business has changed radically over since it launched in the swinging sixties, adapting and evolving to suit the demands of riders and drivers over the years.

"I can well imagine that Honda will be a completely different organisation in 2065 – but still selling quality and trusted cars, bikes and power products."



The Fab 4

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NU 65 REG Vauxhall
Meriva 1.4 Techline
(Winter Pack)



Specification includes:

- Electrically heated front seats* • Cruise control
- CD/MP3 CD player/stereo radio with USB connection (CD 400+)
- Electrically heated leather-covered steering wheel*
- Front and rear parking distance sensors* • 17-inch alloy wheels
- Mobile phone system with Bluetooth® • Front fog lights

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NU 65 REG Vauxhall
Astra 1.4 Limited Edition



Specification includes:

- 19-inch, 5-spoke alloy wheels
- Perforated leather seat-facings (front and outer rear seats)
- Heated front seats • Sports front seats with extendable cushions
- Leather-covered steering wheel with chrome bezel
- USB connection with iPod control • LED daytime running lights

LIST PRICE £19190 **SAVE £7195**

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NU 65 REG Vauxhall
Mokka 1.6 Petrol or Diesel



Specification includes:

- Leather-covered steering wheel • Dual-zone Electronic Climate Control
- DMB digital radio • USB connection with iPod control
- Bluetooth® functionality • CD/MP3 CD player/aux-in socket (CD 400)
- Cruise control • 60/40 split flip and fold rear seat • Front fog lights
- Rain-sensitive windscreen wipers • Front & rear parking sensors

Mokka 1.6 Diesel LIST PRICE £18967 **SAVE £1972** **£16995**

PETROL RRP £16684 **SAVE £1689**

£14995

NU 65 REG Vauxhall
Antara Diamond 2.2 FWD



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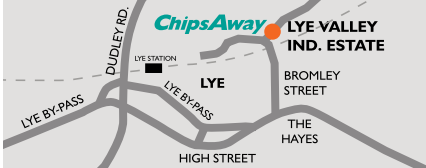
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Prices for Brit-built Astra

Vauxhall's all-new Astra Sports Tourer will be in showrooms in March priced from **£16,585 on-the-road**.

The new Sports Tourer, built at Vauxhall's manufacturing plant in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, follows hot on the heels of the highly-acclaimed five-door model and is up to £1,870 less expensive than the outgoing ST with a simplified range.

The new Astra Sports Tourer range includes Design, Tech Line, SRI and Elite, with Nav versions of the SRI and Elite trims also available. Range highlights include the 1.0-litre three-cylinder Turbo Start/Stop ecoFLEX model priced from £17,285 on-the-road.

With an Easytronic five-speed automatic transmission, the same model achieves a class-leading 96g/km CO2 emissions.

The range-topping 1.6-litre (200PS)

is available in SRI trim priced from £21,710 on-the-road. The diesel offering includes the 1.6-litre 'Whisper Diesel' (110PS) Start/Stop ecoFLEX model (prices start at £18,785 on-the-road) that achieves 85.6mpg and class-leading CO2 emissions of 86g/km.

All pricing, fuel economy and emission figures are provisional and subject to change.

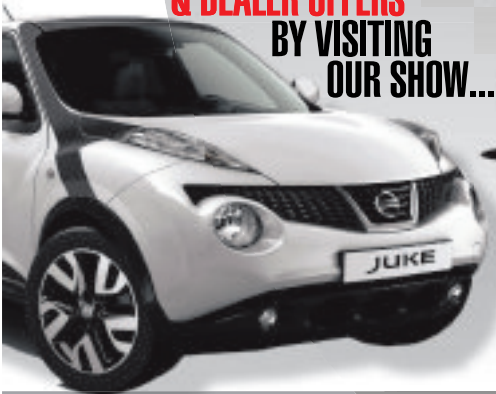
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Nine-goal thriller is full of drama for Sports

Dudley Sports 5 Bromyard 4
A remarkable West Midlands Premier game at Dudley Sports yielded a match filled with drama with nine goals, two penalties and a sending-off.

Sports took the lead on five minutes when Shepherd Machingauta raced clear to get the ball into the net and put his side on the score-board.
With less than half an hour of the game gone the score was upped to 2-0.
Bromyard's Martin Newman was sent off after handling on the line and although Stuart Hillman's penalty was saved by the visiting goalkeeper, Aaron Gordon followed up and put the ball away to boost the score.

Not to be outdone 10-man Bromyard got themselves back into the game minutes later. The re-surge came through Dan Polon heading home from a corner.

With the bit between their teeth Bromyard grabbed two goals in the space of four minutes, through Martin Dobson and Dan Scheppel, to put the visitors ahead.

Sports showed real grit and drew level on 48 minutes as Machingauta headed home a Hillman cross.

Bromyard made it 4-3 on the hour when Josh Wetherby scored from the spot.

Yet again Sports came back this time it was captain Tom Watkins who scored from the edge of the box.

Fittingly, the game was settled by a superb goal.

This time it was Hillman who sent in a crashing volley from 25 yards.

Albion need to 'go back to the basics'

CHRIS BRUNT wants Albion to go back to basics at home in order to stop conceding so many goals.

The Baggies have picked up just four points from six games at The Hawthorns this season.

Tony Pulis' side have been defensively sound away from home but at home they've lost three games 3-2.

"We pride ourselves on not conceding goals and at home this season it's been difficult for us," said Brunt. "We've only won here once and we've conceded three goals on a few occasions so that's obviously something we have to address as a team. I'm sure we'll look at it this week."

"I think maybe it's about time we went back to basics at home and made sure we were difficult to beat," said Brunt.

Kenny worried over toothless Wolves

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett said he was 'concerned' at the insipid performance produced by his team as Bristol City deservedly won at Ashton Gate.

After a convincing victory on Saturday Wolves yet again failed to follow that up as their horribly inconsistent results continued.

Jackett, who was angry that Wolves weren't awarded an injury-time penalty for a challenge on Matt Doherty, admitted it is one step forward and one step back for his team at the moment.

"I didn't think in either half we really got going," the Wolves boss said after Jonathan Kodjia's first-half goal settled a 1-0 victory for the Robins.

"In terms of performance we didn't trouble their

goalkeeper.
"I felt we didn't have our usual energy tonight and while we huffed and puffed we didn't get going.

"It left us bereft of efforts at goal. It did look like a penalty but we didn't get it."

Star striker Benik Afobe was withdrawn at half-time as Jackett shook things up and went for a 3-5-2 formation with Grant Holt and Adam Le Fondre up front.

Wolves were arguably even worse in the second half and the Wolves boss admitted he was disappointed with his team.

"We tried to break them down with a second forward but it didn't change the pattern of the game,"

he said.
"I wanted to get Le Fondre and Holt a go as a pair and see if they could effect things for me going forward.

"It is concerning and it was a flat performance. For a very good travelling away support we didn't do enough and didn't look creative enough.

"It's one step forward and one step back at the moment.

"In either system we couldn't get in behind them or take people on."We certainly could have had a point with the late decision, but we didn't work their goalkeeper.

"We've got enough in the squad to fix it."

Tivs share spoils with a fifth draw

Daventry Town FC 1 Tividale FC 1
IN torrential rain and on a heavy pitch, Tividale played out their fifth consecutive league draw.

This time the Tivs came out even against Daventry Town at their impressive Communications Park ground.

Tividale started the better with Demetri Brown going past Daventry's left back Jon Bukasa in the first minute and sending a great cross that Chris Sterling met on the volley.

However, he was denied by a fine save from Daventry keeper Cerga Justin. Daventry's first serious threat came on 24 minutes when a free kick was headed over by Ricky Hill.

With both sides cancelling each other out and clear cut chances difficult to come by it looked like the half would end goalless.

That was until a minute before the break when Malachi Farquharson flicked on a through ball to Chris Rabone who in turn raced down the left flank and whipped in a cross that Sterling fired into the roof of the net from six yards.

At the start of the second half, Tividale again had the first decent chance on 52 minutes when a shot from striker Mark Danks was parried away by Justin and Sterling was first to react but he could only fire the rebound into the side netting.

Daventry levelled the scores on 62 minutes when a disputed Joe Curtis corner was flicked on by Hill and Shariff made no mistake this time.

He stabbed the ball home at the back post.

A minute later a mix up in the home defence let in Danks who sent away Sterling but his shot was brilliantly cleared off the line by Bukasa with Iustin beaten.

Tividale 1 Chasetown 1
A topsy-turvy game saw Chasetown extend their unbeaten run to four matches thanks mainly to goalkeeper John Bateman.

Chasetown started brightly and had the lion's share of the possession, keeping Evo-Stik Division One South bottom club Tividale firmly camped inside their own half.

Despite the territorial advantage, Thomas Turner in the Tividale goal was relatively untroubled with direct shots at goal, with James Dance firing wide, Stan Mugisha driving over the bar and a Rhys Thompson free-kick right on the edge of the box striking the defensive wall.

It was still no surprise though when Chase-



Jason Chilton of Tividale keeps a close eye on Chasetown's Garfield Robinson during the derby match

town took the lead. A corner was headed back into the danger area by Joe Halsall and a slight obstruction by his own defender caused Turner to spill a regulation catch straight to the feet of Ryan Winter.

Winter took a couple of touches to make the chance easier but comfortably netted his fifth goal of the season.

The lead was short-lived as Chris Rabone was sent tumbling in the penalty area and Chris Sterling confi-

dently converted the spot-kick, sending Bateman the wrong way.

Chasetown came out fighting in the second half, Winter heading wide in front of goal and Richard Davies volleying over while Jason Chilton in defence made a number of excellent blocks and tackles.

But Tividale looked confident in the last 20 minutes and attacked well. Chasetown almost nicked the victory with the last touch of the game.

Wednesbury side nail the Old Wulfs to bottom spot

Old Wulfrunians 1 Wednesbury 6
DAVE Ward made his return for Old Wulfs with a trademark penalty corner goal.

However, even Ward's efforts couldn't help prevent a heavy defeat to leave Old Wulfrunians rooted to the foot of the table.

Once again Wulfs began a game brightly, indulging in neat passing hockey but unable to create the solid openings which were required to break down the experienced visitor's defence if they wanted to make any headway.

After 10 minutes Wulfs where hit by a blow when key midfielder Ablard withdrew from the game with a hamstring problem and soon after Wednesbury opened the scoring with a well-struck, reverse hit finding the back of the net.

Wednesbury put two more past the keeper before half time to effectively seal the game but Wulfs went quite yet ready to lie down just yet.

There was a flurry of penalty corners for Old Wulfs in the second half and some hope of a revival, but after the Ward goal they couldn't prevent Wednesbury from pressing home their advantage.

Wulfs travel to fellow strugglers Kings Heath this week for a real relegation crunch-match.

Streety 3 Old Wulfs 2nd XI 3
Mark Wilson (3)
Leamington 1 Old Wulfs 3rd XI 5
Sam Aldersley (3) Eddie Thompson, Matt Cartwright
Old Wulfs 4th XI 2 Cannock 0
Karam Lally, Carl Harrison
Stone 0 Old Wulfs 5th XI 5
Callum Nightingale 3, Mike Savage 2

Rangers are taken down by Sporting

Wolves Sporting 6
Smethwick Rangers 3

WOLVES Sporting moved back up to sixth place in the West Midlands Premier with a superb win against form side Smethwick Rangers.

The visitors had been unbeaten in six but were three down in rapid time thanks to goals from Daniel Westwood, Kyle Delaney and Nathan Cain.

Wolves also hit a post and Jon Letford missed a good headed chance from six yards.

Smethwick hit back to cut the arrears to 3-2, but in the second half another fast start by the home team saw Chris Brown net twice either side of Letford bagging his second.

A late goal for Rangers took no gloss off the result for Sporting, who have netted 38 goals in their last 10 games.

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Steelers are looking for new recruits

SANDWELL STEELERS women's American football team are planning a pre-Christmas recruitment drive.

The Steelers are beginning their preparations for their second season of action and the upcoming Sapphire Series that kicks off in February.

The club's men's side enjoyed a hugely successful campaign this year as they gained promotion with a perfect record of 13 wins from 13 games and now the ladies are looking to swell their playing ranks.

The games are five-a-side full contact clashes on a reduced-size playing area and the Steelers team is open to women from the age of 17.

Samantha Wilson, general manager of the women's team, said: "The Sandwell Steelers women's american football club was started in 2013 following the success of our senior and youth teams.

"We encourage girls of all shapes and sizes to come and try out a new sport and while it's not for everyone, nearly all of the girls that have come to try it out have stayed and developed so much in the sport.

"At the moment we are concentrating on five verses five full contact games, until we have a few more girls to then start moving into 11 verses 11 contact football.

"We are recruiting all the time, and are constantly fundraising for more equipment for our team."

The team's training sessions take place every Sunday from 1-3pm at Tipton Sports Academy.

Anyone interested in joining The Steelers should contact Samantha Wilson on 07445 226485 or go to facebook.com/sandwellswafc

The men's side will be celebrating their promotion-winning campaign with an awards night on November 20.

Pulis charged by FA over incident involving referee

THE FA have charged Albion boss Tony Pulis with improper conduct for an altercation with referee Anthony Taylor after Saturday's defeat to Leicester.

Pulis is alleged to have used unsuitable 'language and/or behaviour' in the tunnel after the full time whistle at The Hawthorns. He had until 6pm Thursday to respond to the charge.

Taylor turned down three Albion penalty shouts during the match, and afterwards Pulis admitted he had confronted the referee about it.

"I've had a little bit of a go in the tunnel with him," he said. "I apologised for doing that." Taylor infuriated Albion fans by ignoring three separate penalty appeals.

In the first half, Leonardo Ulloa tugged Jonny Evans back at a corner and Robert Huth wrestled Gareth McAuley to the floor.

Then after half-time when the score was 1-1, Huth clattered into Darren Fletcher. Albion's manager took issue with the incidents involving Evans and Fletcher and the Welshman said he was going to contact referees' chief Mike

Blues are losing their winning ways

Blues 0 Blackburn Rovers 0

BIRMINGHAM City have lost their early-season impetus and dropped more valuable home points in a dour 0-0 draw against struggling Blackburn Rovers at St. Andrew's.

It was Birmingham's first point in three games and the third successive match in which they have failed to score.

Defensive-minded Blackburn were intent on at least sharing the spoils and were well worth their point.

Surprisingly both teams operated with only one striker which explained the lack of goals, and the game hardly panned out as Birmingham would

Football

have liked. They had hoped, after their third home defeat in four games, the return of American defender Jonathan Spector and Andrew Shinnie would have sparked off a much-needed improvement.

Unfortunately this did not materialise as battling Blackburn experienced little difficulty shutting out Gary Rowett's Blues.

David Cotterill provided an early service of crosses to put Blackburn under pressure but Rovers survived with an obvious defensive blockade.

Blues 0 Wolves 2

Wolves won comfortably. Against a team they started the day nine points behind. So who saw that coming?

Kenny Jackett might have done, and he cannot be praised enough for masterminding what was an important victory, both in terms of supporter morale, and the bigger picture of the play-offs.

In reducing the gap to sixth-placed Blues to six points, it keeps their heads above water in the play-off race.

It also eases the pressure on Jackett, who knows that a season of drifting aimlessly along in mid-table obscurity.

YELTZ FALL AT FIRST HURDLE

Halesowen Town 0 AFC Wulfrunians 1
HALESOWEN'S involvement in the Birmingham Senior Cup was ended at the first stage.

It all came apart for the Yeltz through a single goal from AFC Wulfrunians of the Midland Football League.

Chris Waterhouse notched the 12th minute winner in simple fashion for the Wulfs by climbing above the home defence to head home at the far post directly from Jake Webb's right wing corner.

Before that, Kyle Minto had already forced an eighth minute corner for the visitors with Matt Sargeant flapping to clear the ball before the home goalkeeper grabbed a dangerous Webb cross.

In an even passage of play later in the half, Nathan Waite struck a 28th minute low shot at visiting goalkeeper Daniel Tipton after Jean-Michel Gueyres attacked into the penalty area and Tipton then made a good blocking save from Isaac Cooper's 31st minute wide-angled shot.

For the visitors, Minto almost connected with a 34th minute cross from Ben Jeavons and Sargeant grabbed Vinny Aulak's deep cross in the 42nd minute.

Just before the interval Tipton gathered a 25 yard low skidding drive from home captain Danny Bragoli.

Halesowen 1 Stourbridge 2

Stourbridge manager Gary Hackett felt his team just about deserved to edge the FA Trophy game in a tight contest ahead of a big week for his club.

Stourbridge led when influential former Yeltz midfielder Tom Tonks played a neat interchange with Dodd before picking out the unmarked Stuart Pierpoint.

With a shot at goal he smashed a brilliant 28th-minute finish into the top corner from 15 yards.

But the lead proved short-lived as Halesowen equalised after 34 minutes when Reece Hales played a neat dummy, allowing Keyon Refell to hit a low cross for Aaron Daniels to turn home with perfect timing.

The Glassboys struck their 79th-minute winner when Karl Hawley glanced home a close-range header.

Garde sees scale of task at Villa



Villa's Jordan Ayew takes on Tottenham's Danny Rose and Eric Dier

Spurs 3 Villa 1

NEW boss Remi Garde watched from the White Hart Lane stands as Villa succumbed to their old failings last night.

The claret and blues went down 3-1 as defensive frailties handed Spurs the three points.

A late Villa rally was snuffed out by Harry Kane in added time but Garde will have been left in little doubt as to the magnitude of his task if he is to keep Villa in the Premier League.

A mistake by defender Ciaran Clark - recalled to the Villa starting XI after captain Micah Richards was subjected to a late one-match ban after his tunnel bust up with Swan-

sea's Federico Fernandez - handed Moussa Dembele the first goal after just two minutes and Villa were chasing the game from then on.

The second goal also saw Villa's defence stand off as Dele Alli fired in Spurs' second just before the break.

And after substitute Jordan Ayew provided a second-half lifeline, Villa's defence was again wide open to allow Kane to seal the win as the away side went in search of a late equaliser.

Caretaker manager Kevin McDonald beamed his side's performance, saying: "We actually came with a game plan and that went out of the window after two minutes. "We frustrated them."

Town lose their grip on away game

Pegasus Jrs 5 Tipton Town 2

TIPTON Town's first ever visit to the splendid Pegasus ground in Old School Lane, Hereford culminated in a convincing defeat following an insipid second-half performance from the visitors.

Tipton had battled well in the first period of the match to turn it around so it was soon all square at 1-1 in the West Midlands Premier clash between the two clubs.

Sean Pearson put Pegasus ahead on 12 minutes but the Black Country club soon equalised through a splendid Ravi Sangha strike just six minutes later which meant the game was on and it could be a case of who blinks first will end up on the wrong side of the score.

Honours remained pretty even for the remainder of the half but no one could see what was coming when the visitors' performance was, unaccountably, to dip sadly in the second period.

This of course gave the home club and their leading scorer Pearson the opportunity to run riot and take their opponents out of the running which is what they set about doing.

Tipton's second-half showing lacked a great deal of the energy they had displayed in the first period and which had kept them in the game but now it was slipping away from them.

However, several of the Town defenders were being too easily brushed aside.

Pearson ended up with four goals for Pegasus, Cory Hyde scoring the other as the visitors' Matt Weyman provided a little second-half consolation by netting.

Manager Paul Totney will be looking for a huge improvement this week when local rivals Wolverhampton Casuals will be visiting Tipton Sports Academy.

Manager signs new deal with Brummies

BIRMINGHAM Speedway are delighted to confirm that Graham Drury has signed a two-year extension to his contract as team manager and co-promoter.

The deal means Drury will remain with the Surestop Brummies for the 2016/17 seasons with wife Denise also back on board as Administrations Manager.

Graham and Denise are over the moon to be staying with the club following the success of 2015.

Drury said: "First and foremost it is an absolute pleasure to know Denise and I will be back at Perry Barr for the next two seasons."

★★★

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